GDP grew 4.5% in Q2 but investors skeptical

STORY BELOW, COLUMN 6

2 RM awardees blast US anti-terror policy

By Blanche S. Rivera

FINANCIAL rewards from the United States notwithstanding, recipients of this year's Ramon Magsaysay Awards did not mince words in assailing the US government's policy on terrorism and its self-imposed role as "global cop."

Speaking at a press conference yes-

2RM/A18

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Capulong nominated for Ombudsman** NEWS / A2
- **Inflation in August rose slightly** BUSINESS / B2
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Gov't to take over Naia 3

Report stuns Piatco partners; serious legal implications cited

By John Nery and Rocky Nazareno

THE PRESIDENTIAL adviser in charge of reviewing the controversial contract to build the Naia Terminal 3 dropped a $400-million bombshell in yesterday's Senate blue ribbon committee hearing.

Gloria Tan Climaco said the government would take over the $609-million terminal being constructed by Philippine International Air Terminals Co. (Piatco) after the German partner, Frankfurt Airport Services Worldwide (Fraport), agreed to be bought out for $400 million.

The announcement, which carries serious legal implications, left the Filipino partners in Piatco shell-shocked. "We are completely surprised by the declaration made by Secretary Climaco," Piatco vice president and spokesperson Moises Tolentino told the INQUIRER.

Tolentino, who noted that Climaco had been regularly conferring with Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo and Presidential Legal Counsel Avelino Cruz on the Piatco issue, claimed that lawyers identified with the Carpio & Villaraza law office, including Cruz and Supreme Court Associate Justice Antonio Carpio, were responsible for the surprising turn of events.

"I think they have a hand here. That is the talk of the town. That cannot be denied anymore. That is the buzz in legal circles," he said in a phone interview.

Piatco counsel Eduardo delos Angeles said, "it is very strange and unusual that now that the airport is nearly finished, government wants to take over."

Tolentino said the Filipino

GOV'T/A15

PRESIDENT Macapagal springs a surprise welcome in Bongao, Tawi-Tawi, for 1,500 migrants deported from Sabah who arrive on Thursday aboard the Navy ship BRP Dagupan. With Ms Macapagal is DSWD Secretary Dinky Soliman (at left). DENNIS SABANGAN

Deportees 'detained' for GMA arrival

By Julie S. Alipala and Dona Pazzibugan

BONGAO, Tawi-Tawi—At least 15 deportees, including 10 babies, were taken to the hospital here yesterday after they were "detained" for over four hours on a Philippine Navy ship so that President Macapagal-Arroyo could personally welcome them.

The deportees, numbering 1,450 including 407 children, were advised to stay on the ship because Ms Macapagal had yet to arrive.

"(They) could no longer endure the heat inside the Philippine Navy boat, (so) they suffered from dehydration," Dr. Redentor Rabino of the Depart-

DEPORTEES/A20

Gloria asks FVR to see Mahathir

By Norman Bordadora, Armand Nocum and Rocky Nazareno

THE PHILIPPINE and Malaysian governments are now moving fast.

President Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday that she is requesting former President Fidel Ramos to talk to Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad on the fate of the undocumented Filipinos in Sabah.

Malaysian Ambassador Mohammad Noor Taufik has committed his government to investigate police and immigration officials in Sabah following calls for compensation and apology from both Philippine officials and militant groups.

"We will accept responsibility if our people are found guilty," Taufik said.

Already Vice President Teofisto Guingona has branded as "genocide" the deaths of Filipino children in the exodus from Sabah. During a press briefing called by the Catholic Bishops Conference Episcopal Commission for the Pastoral care of Migrants and Itinerant People, Guingona also sought a review by the two governments of the bases for the mass deportation of illegal migrants.

Guingona explained that hundreds of thousands of Filipinos had gone to Sabah believing that the sultan of Sulu owned Sabah and thus, they needed no travel papers.

But he said that the Philippine claim to Sabah, which had been placed in the "back burner" during the Ramos

GLORIA/A20

DENNIS SABANGAN

WHIPPING by rattan cane leaves its mark on Majib Daji, one of the arrivals on Thursday from Sabah where illegal immigrants endure six strokes of caning.

Tit for tat: RP readies raps vs Malaysian illegals

By Michael Lim Ubac and Gerald G. Lacuarta

IN an apparent case of tit for tat, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez has ordered the National Bureau of Investigation and Bureau of Immigration to slap charges on aliens, supposedly including Malaysians, staying illegally in the Philippines.

Perez said at a press conference yesterday that he issued the order after noting that some 1,500 "people from Malaysia" were entering the country every week through the Zamboanga port. He claimed that most, if not all, of them were carrying fake Philippine passports.

"I (have) directed the (two bureaus) to coordinate with each other and assist the Department of Foreign Affairs in determining who are the holders of these fake passports, and to cause the filing of charges against (them)," he said.

Members of the militant Migrante International and Kilusang Mayo Uno yesterday picketed the Malaysian Embassy in Makati City to protest the crackdown by Malaysian authorities on illegal migrants in Sabah, which has resulted in the death of 13 Filipino children in detention camps there and on ships taking the migrants back to the Philippines.

"The Malaysian government is going Nazi-style with its ruthless assault on our countrymen," said Migrante International secretary general Poe Gratela. "Its inhu-

TIT/A20

GDP grew 4.5% in Q2; investors skeptical

By Doris C. Dumlao

GOVERNMENT officials and foreign analysts were pleasantly surprised, but stock market investors were incredibly skeptical.

Powered by rising manufacturing output, the Philippine economy grew in the second quarter of 2002 at its fastest pace in five years.

The gross domestic product (GDP) grew 4.5 percent in the second quarter from a year earlier, sharply higher than government and market forecasts of about 3.9 percent, the National Economic Development Authority said.

A 20-percent surge in semiconductor exports in the second quarter, after five consecutive quarters of negative growth, highlighted the sparkling growth performance, Neda data showed.

Compared with the first quarter, the GDP grew 2.3 percent, seasonally adjusted, the highest quarterly growth rate since the second quarter of 1997. The annual growth rate was the highest since the third quarter of 2000, almost two years ago.

"The Philippine economy turned in a pleasant surprise in the second quarter of 2002 by

GDP/A18

Workers protest abolition of gov't printing office; blame Dante Ang

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

THERE is an unseen hand behind the proposed abolition of the National Printing Office, the 102-year-old government facility that prints ballots and election forms. Or so its protesting employees believe.

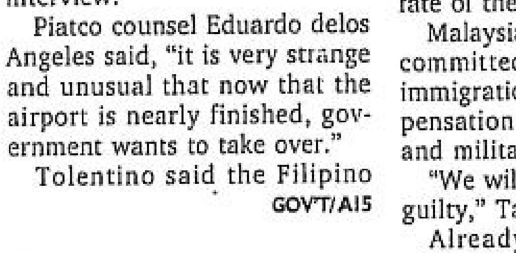
According to them, the hand is readily identifiable.

"The role of (Dante) Ang in the proposed abolition of the NPO can be clearly seen," said Mar Adarlo, president of the NPO Workers Association.

Ang, the longtime private publicist of President Macapagal-Arroyo, was once an operations consultant of a "semi-private" company called the APO Printing Unit created by the National Economic Development Authority during the Ramos administration. Rene Velasco, the recently appointed

WORKERS/A15

The Rat Pack: Big J son arrested



RODENTS never had a chance when Ryan Jaworski used this M-16 rifle in Greenhills, San Juan. VAL HANDUMON

By Nelson Flores and TJ Burgonio

DOES anybody smell a rat?

A senator's son and four of his friends were arrested late Wednesday night after they were caught "rat-hunting" using high-powered guns inside a posh subdivision in San Juan town.

Brought to San Juan police headquarters for investigation were Ryan Jaworski,

RAT/A18

ANO BA 'YAN!?
NAKAKAHIYA!!

A matter of protocol: Do they know how to prepare halal?

By Franklin Caliguid, *PDI Mindanao Bureau*

SURIGAO CITY—To his horror, a senior official from a Muslim country will share a small hotel room with four other guests.

He will not be provided with a car. He expressed doubts that the hotel chef could serve him properly prepared food for Muslims.

These problems highlighted the poor prepara-

AMATTER/A20

Second FRONT PAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: RAY LEYESA, PDI RESEARCH/08/30/02

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy with Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Capulong nominated for Ombudsman

A HUMAN rights lawyer who currently sits in a United Nations tribunal hearing war crimes in the former Yugoslavia has been nominated to the position of Ombudsman.

Romeo Capulong, who also acts as the legal counsel of the National Democratic Front's negotiating panel, was nominated by convenors of Plunder Watch and the Estrada Resign Movement.

Capulong had been elected by the United Nations General Assembly as the only Filipino member and justice of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) of his extensive experience as a leading human rights lawyer.

Convenors of Plunder Watch and the Estrada Resign Movement yesterday submitted their formal nomination of Capulong before the Judicial and Bar Council at the Supreme Court compound in Manila.

Palace disowns probe of 'fat cats'

By Carlito Pablo

MALACAÑANG moved yesterday to dissociate the President from the investigation of quasi-government corporation officials who continue to receive fat salaries despite a year-old order to cut their pay packages.

"The President ordered no such investigation," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye.

Bunye made the assertion a day after former senator Francisco Tatad warned that officials of the 15 government-owned or controlled corporations and financial institutions who are being investigated by the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission might resign.

The PAGC has summoned representatives of the GOCCs and GFIs to a formal hearing at 10 a.m. today to determine if they have complied with Memorandum Order No. 20, which was issued on June 25, 2001.

The MO directs heads of GOCCs and GFIs and their subsidiaries to trim the salaries of their senior officers to levels not exceeding twice the compensation paid in equivalent government posts.

"The fact is the PAGC, acting on its own, is conducting the formal inquiry into the compliance by all GFIs and GOCCs with the memorandum," Bunye said.

Unwittingly, Bunye may have contributed to the confusion regarding the issue.

Under MO 20, the GOCCs and GFIs were directed to submit to the Palace, through the Department of Budget and Management, a pay rationalization plan (PRP).

But according to Bunye's interpretation of the word rationalization, the agencies were simply required to justify or explain why their officials were entitled to fat paychecks.

"As far as we are concerned, the first step that should have been taken was taken and this was the submission by the heads of the GOCCs and GFIs of their explanations," Bunye said.

According to published reports, the 15 GOCCs and GFIs have submitted their PRPs, but had yet to receive the go-ahead to implement them from Malacañang.

Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin admitted Wednesday the agencies had not been told to proceed with the pay cuts.

GOCC and GFI officials are protesting the PAGC investigation, saying they have complied with MO 20.

Dario Rama, PAGC chair, shunned media interviews yesterday.

"There will be a hearing tomorrow (Friday) and chairman Rama prefers to get things clarified during the hearing," said a member of his staff.

In a radio interview last month, Rama said he had been directed by Malacañang, through Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, to check on the compliance by the GOCCs and GFIs with MO 20.

The GOCCs and GFIs have their respective charters and are exempt from the salary standardization law.

Yesterday, Bacolod Rep. Monico Puentevella said he would ask the House committee on good government to resume its inquiry into the high salaries of the agency officials who would be invited to the hearings. ***With Christine O. Avendaño and Doris C. Dumlao***

Joma bank account not frozen

AMSTERDAM—Jose Maria Sison, the founder of the Communist Party of the Philippines, who was recently put on the US list of suspected terrorists, said Wednesday he is still drawing money from his bank account two weeks after Dutch authorities said they had blocked his assets.

Sison, who has lived in the Netherlands since the late 1980s, said his account was frozen for a day but had become active again.

"My account, which contains a grand total of around 1,200 euros ($1,175), was blocked for one day and a dental payment bounced," Sison said. "It has been de-blocked."

The US State Department added the CCP and the New People's Army, its armed wing, to a list of suspected terrorist organizations early this month. Sison also was named. *AP*

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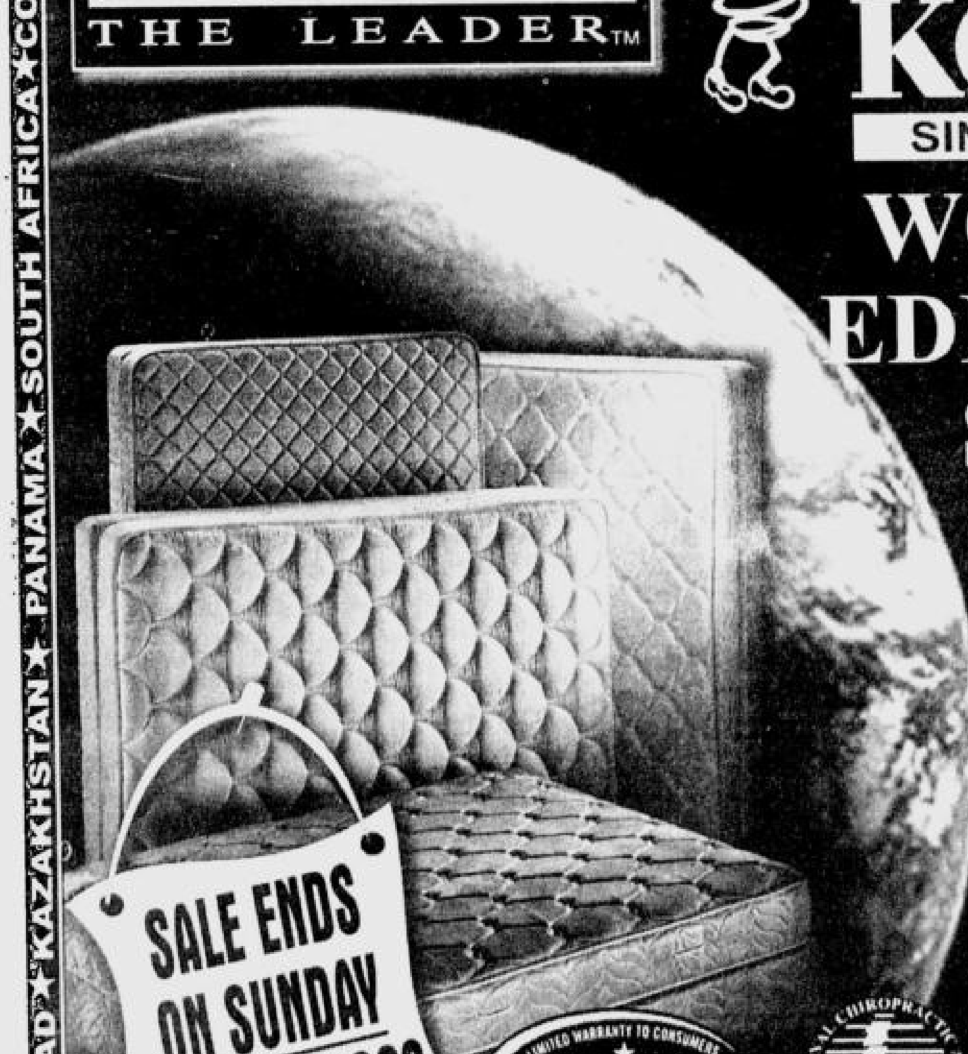

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Ex-solon acquitted of graft

By N. Bordadora

THE SANDIGANBAYAN has acquitted former Camarines Sur Rep. Eduardo Pilapil of graft charges that stemmed from his alleged failure to deliver an ambulance donated by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office through his then congressional office.

In a decision penned by Associate Justice Anacleto Badoy, the fifth division of the anti-graft court acquitted Pilapil of the 11 year old graft case on the ground of reasonable doubt.

The decision, concurred in by Associate Justices Minita Chico-Nazario and Cristina Golez-Estrada, said that the court could not establish the fact that the then congressman acted in bad faith to allocate the van for himself instead of converting it into an ambulance.

The ambulance was meant for the use of the municipality of Tigaon in Pilapil's former constituency in Camarines Sur.

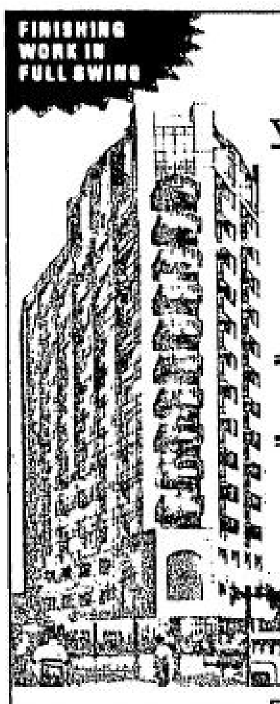
"We could not say with (certainty) that the van was used by the accused and that he acted in bad faith when the name and logo of the PCSO was painted over. There is reasonable doubt in this regard," Badoy said in the 15-page decision.

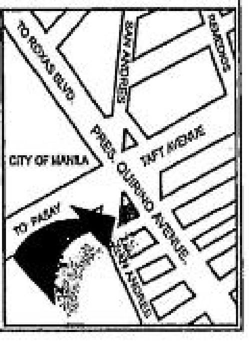
...The court gave credence to Pilapil's claim that he accepted the vehicle in passenger van form and was in the process of converting it into an ambulance when allegations were raised about his purpose.

"As records show, the accused did make representations with the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. for the necessary equipment and supplies to convert the van even before he was haled to court," the decision further read.

The court also believed Pilapil's claim that he held on to the van before it was converted into an ambulance because he didn't want it to be misused and misallocated in Tigaon.

"The decision of (Pilapil) to retain custody of the van pending its conversion into an ambulance was totally not without reason," the court said.





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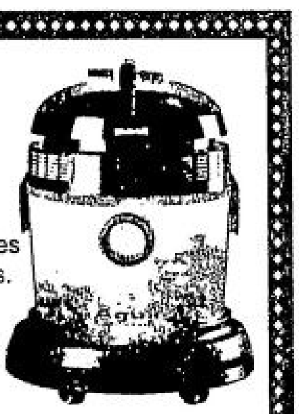

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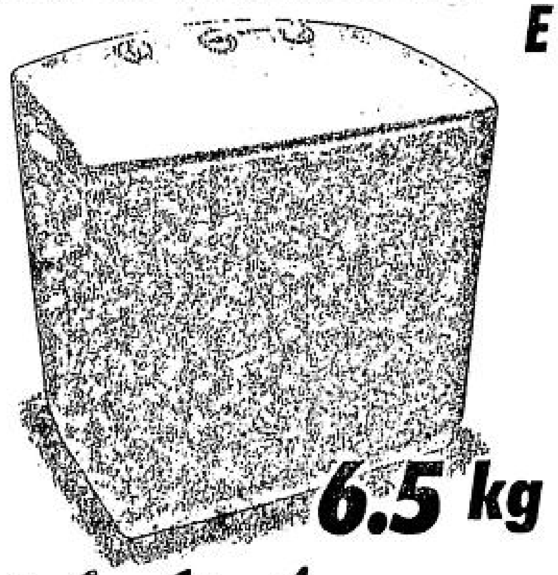

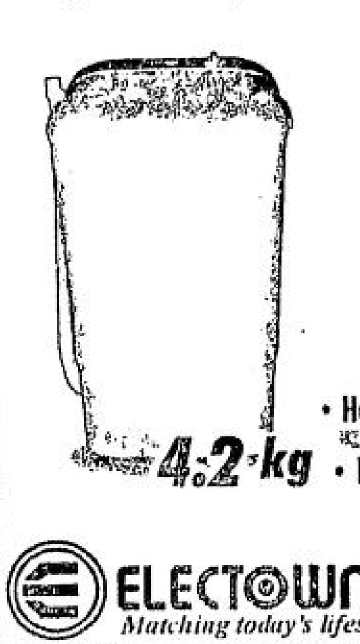

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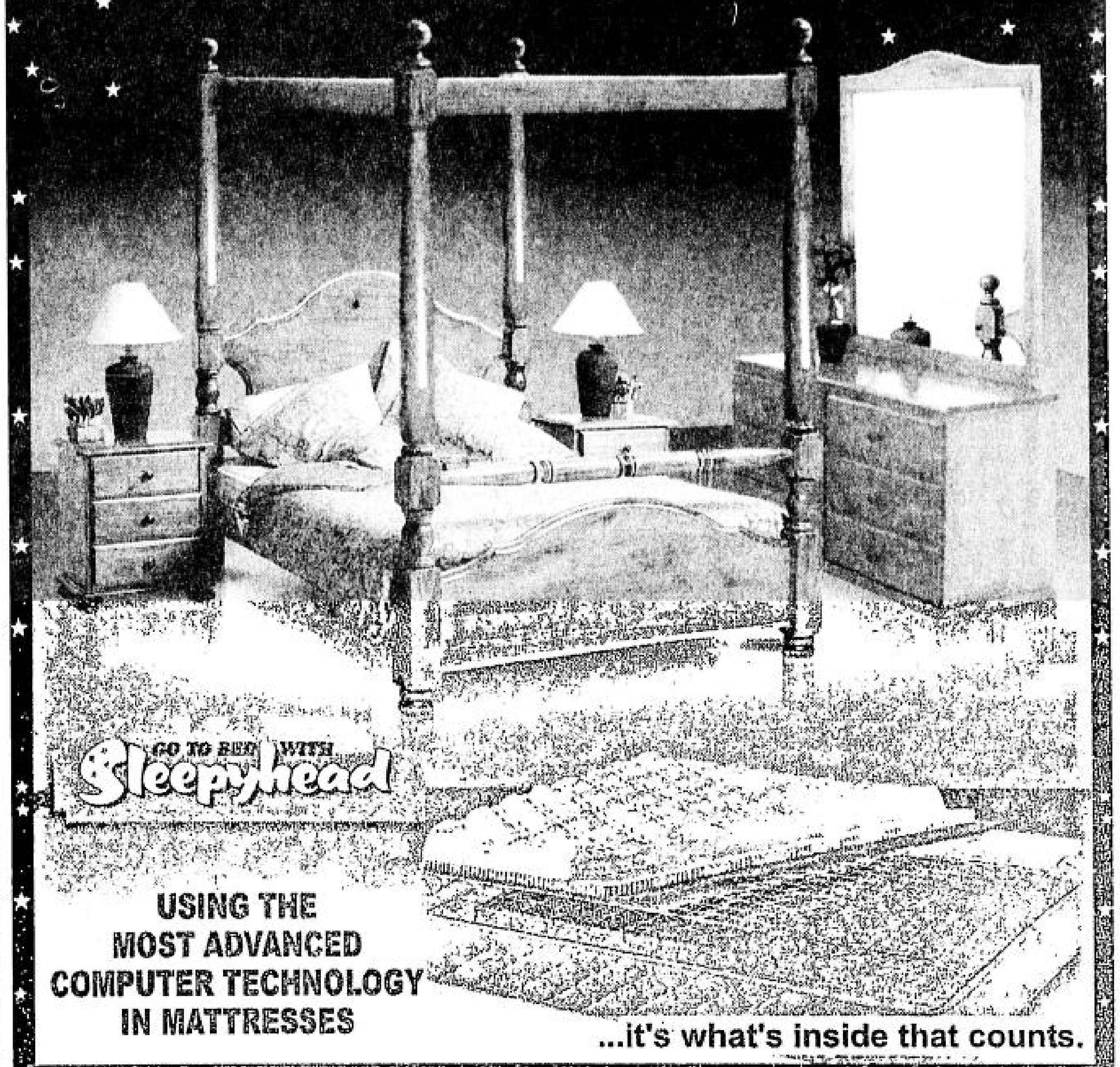

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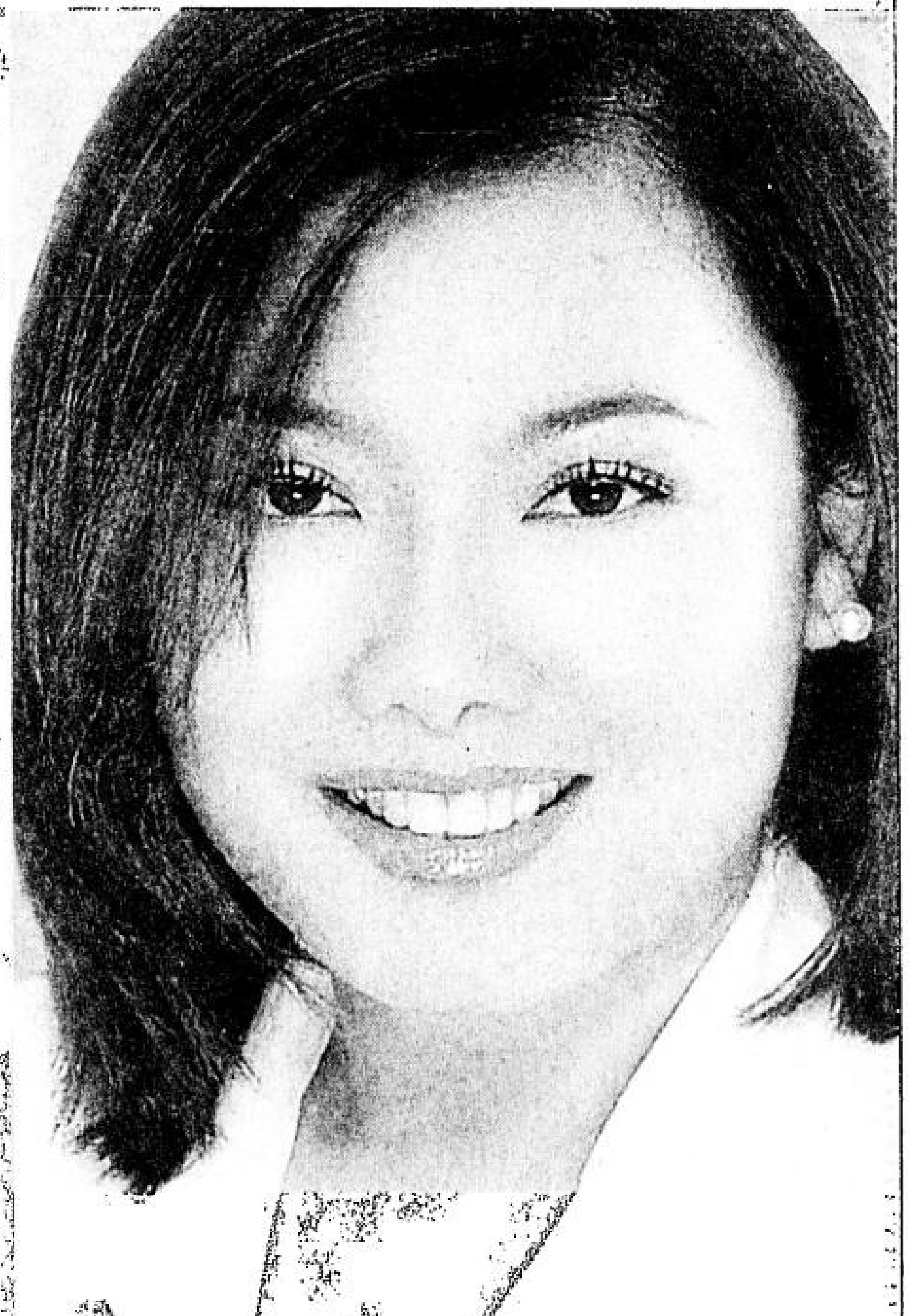

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Joe de V survives coup try

By Juliet L. Javellana

THE 20-STRONG minority of the House of Representatives tried to unseat Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. and other House leaders late Wednesday night as the chamber struggled on the Transco franchise bill.

The coup, the first open challenge to De Venecia's leadership, was easily defeated. But it was apparent the Speaker was shaken by the unexpected move of the opposition.

The Speaker was personally on board to ensure his and the majority's hold. He was seen personally asking congressmen to stand up to defeat the motion.

The presiding Speaker, Gerry Salapuddin, ordered a division of the House, when Maguindanao Rep. Didagen Dilangalen moved to declare all seats vacant.

Those who were for and against the motion asked to stand up. An opposition congressman said one third stood up for the motion but they were outnumbered.

He said many congressmen at first refused to stand up but were persuaded by De Venecia to do so.

"It was the first time in his life that a motion to declare all seats vacant nearly won," said the opposition congressman.

A majority congressman who declined to be named said the Speaker was a bit shaken by the event.

He was already the object of disenchantment from his own allies because of Malacañang's decision to withhold the release of the second and last tranche of their pork barrel.

The Speaker, who had proven himself as a coalition-builder, said he was not to be blamed because even his own pork barrel was withheld.

No danger

But Bukidnon Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri said De Venecia was not at all in danger of being ousted.

"I think that was part of the delaying tactic to sow confusion but it did not prosper," Zubiri said.

Zubiri said questioning the quorum and ousting the Speaker had always been tools of the opposition.

"I know because we also did that the last time," he said, laughing. Zubiri was among the group of young congressmen called the Spice Boys who helped muster enough signatures to impeach President Joseph Estrada during the 11th Congress.

So what the minority did to De Venecia, Zubiri said, was "forgivable."

"Anyway, the Speaker enjoys the support of the majority," Zubiri said.

Yesterday, opposition congressmen said $2 billion Palace-certified bill seeking to privatize power transmission lines of the National Power Corp. would be used to fill President Macapagal-Arroyo's war chest for the 2004 presidential election.

"We believe this is an election budget. They are going to sell the transmission lines before the elections," one of the congressmen said.

Fund raising

He said the administration stands to reap substantial commissions from the bidding and sale of the nationwide transmission lines.

"This is a fund-raising campaign, that is my speculation," said another. They both declined to be named.

The second congressman added that the Transco franchise would also pave the way for the sale of seven power generation companies.

The sale of the Gencos, he noted, would bring the government even bigger amounts.

But Zubiri, chair of the House legislative franchises committee, laughed off the allegation.

"That is part of the delaying tactic of the minority," said Zubiri who was in charge of defending the National Transmission Corp. (Transco) franchise bill on the floor.

The House minority succeeded in blocking the scheduled passage of the bill last Wednesday when the chamber went into extended sessions past midnight.

Zubiri admitted there was tremendous pressure from the House to pass the Transco franchise bill before sessions adjourn on Sept. 6.

The franchise bill grants Transco a 50-year franchise to operate power transmission lines throughout the country. It may give the franchise to private concessionaires through a public bidding.

Unlike regular bills, which have counterparts in either chamber, Transco is a franchise bill that emanates from the House. Unless it is approved and transmitted by the House, the Senate cannot tackle the measure.

The Senate committee on public services would still subject the bill to a public hearing and to the floor for approval. After that, the measure would be reconciled by a bicameral conference committee and the final version would return to the House for ratification.

CHILDREN'S HOUR

Jolina, Jose Mari, Bam: Power of three

By Celine R. Madamba

DURING its relaunch on August 14, the Children's Hour campaign proved the power of an hour by raising more than P3 million from some 20 companies and individuals. Since then, it has generated public interest from various sectors of society and continues to garner support from well-known celebrities and philanthropists.

On Monday, businessman and singer Jose Mari Chan, National Youth Commissioner and Breakfast host Bam Aquino and singer-actress Jolina Magdangal met with Children's Hour chairperson Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II to formalize their joining the Children's Hour as spokespersons. Chan will represent the Filipino-Chinese community and Aquino the government sector.

Magdangal, who was youth spokesperson for Children's Hour in 1999, will once again be the youth celebrity spokesperson of the campaign. The three celebrities have pledged their time and resources to help raise funds for the benefit of thousands of Filipino children in need.

Children's Hour, which is now an institutionalized vehicle for fundraising, is once again appealing to every working individual and company to donate at least an hour's worth of earnings for the benefit of abused and disadvantaged children in the Philippines.

In 1999, the campaign raised close to P40 million and benefited more than 88,000 children and youth nationwide. With the help of its cooperating partner the Elena P. Tan Foundation, it donated medical equipment for the pediatric wards of 10 medical centers and three health centers in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

This year, the campaign aims to raise just as much and will make its way to Davao and Cebu this Sept. 9 and 27, respectively, to solicit support from companies and individuals.

According to Zobel, "We wish to build on the wellspring of generosity to relaunch the Children's Hour to give them once again an opportunity to champion the cause of children among their employees and company executives. We can then urge other companies to come and join us in this campaign to save our children from illiteracy, homelessness, hunger, and abuse."

Spearheading the campaign is the Ayala Foundation together with a steering committee led by Zobel and vice-chair Gina Lopez. The committee is comprised of distinguished business and government leaders Corazon Alma de Leon, Ramon R. del Rosario, Renato S. de Villa, Carols Dominguez, Susana A.S. Madrigal, Narcisa L. Escaler, Bob D. Gothong, Patricia B. Licuanan, Guillermo M. Luz, Justo A. Ortiz, Marianne G. Quebral, Pedro E. Roxas, Emily Abrera, Bienvenido Tan Jr., Bishop Socrates Villegas, and Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez.

RP has enough oil

THE DEPARTMENT of Energy yesterday gave assurance that the country could weather a possible oil supply crisis should the United States launch a military attack against Iraq.

Energy Secretary Vincent Perez Jr. said in a statement DOE monitoring showed that inventories of Petron, Pilipinas Shell Petroleum, and Caltex Philippines would last at least 63 days.

RP slips in corruption list

By Carlito Pablo

CORRUPTION in the Philippines worsened this year compared to 2001, according to a global survey conducted by anti-graft watchdog Transparency International.

Among the 102 countries ranked in Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index 2002 (CPI), the Philippines' ranking slipped to 77th, in a tie with Pakistan, Romania and Zambia.

Last year, the country ranked 65th along with Guatemala, Senegal and Zimbabwe.

Transparency International's CPI reflects the "degree to which corruption is perceived to exist among public officials and politicians."

The CPI is a "composite index" drawn from different polls by independent institutions that were "carried out among business people and country analysts, including surveys of residents, both local and expatriate."

The highest score in Transparency International's CPI is 10.

For this year, the Philippines' CPI score was 2.6 based on 11 surveys used by Transparency International.

In 2001, the country's CPI score was 2.1 based on the same number of surveys.

In a statement, Transparency International said that 70 of the 102 countries ranked scored "less than 5 out of a clean score of 10."

These include many of the most poverty-stricken countries like the Philippines while countries with a score of higher than 9, with very low levels of perceived corruption, are predominantly rich countries.

Finland ranked number one with a CPI of 9.7, with Denmark and New Zealand tying at second place with a CPI of 9.5.

The country's number one ally, the US, scored a CPI of 7.7 and ranked 16th, while Japan had 7.1 and 20th in country ranking.

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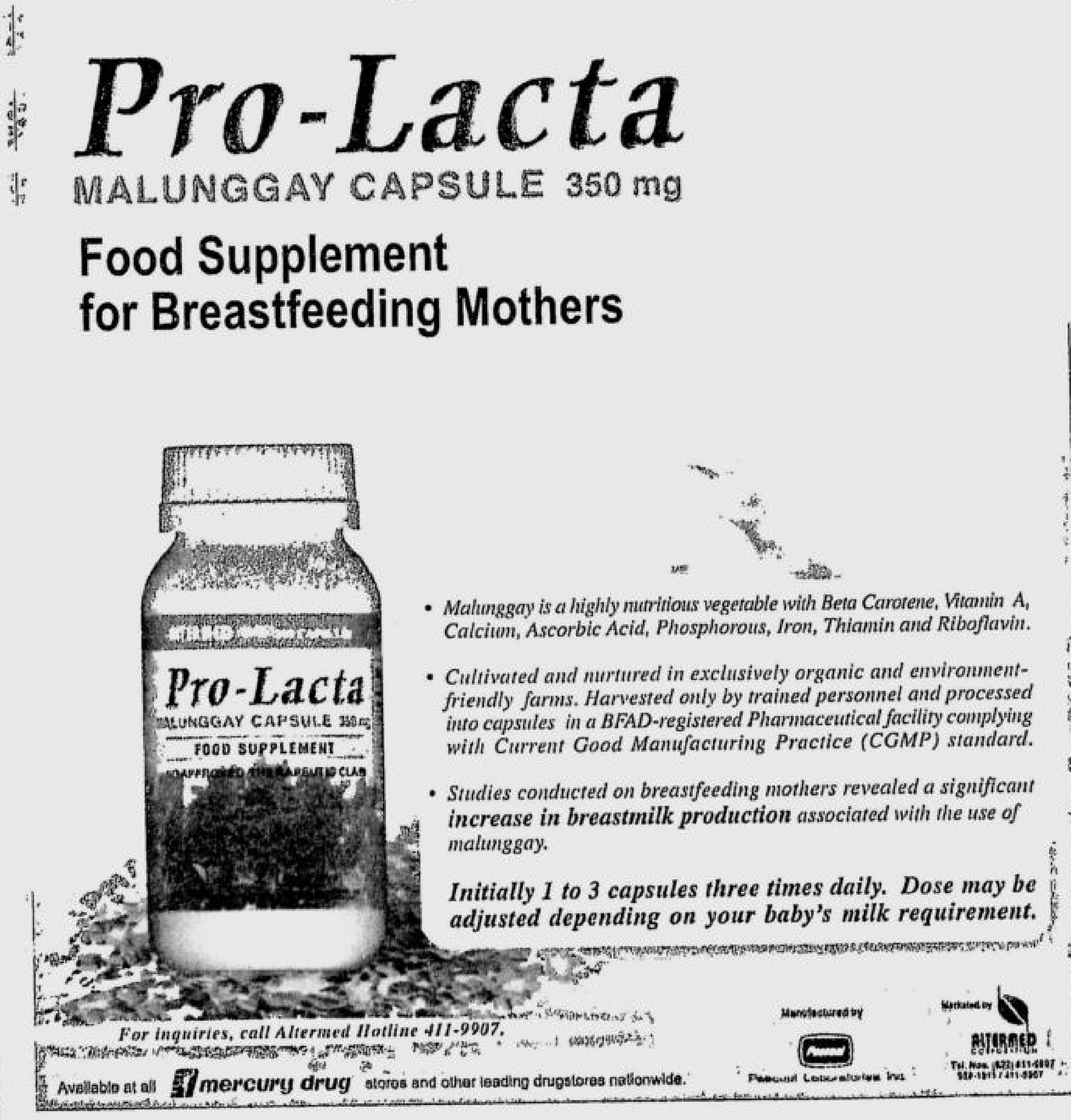

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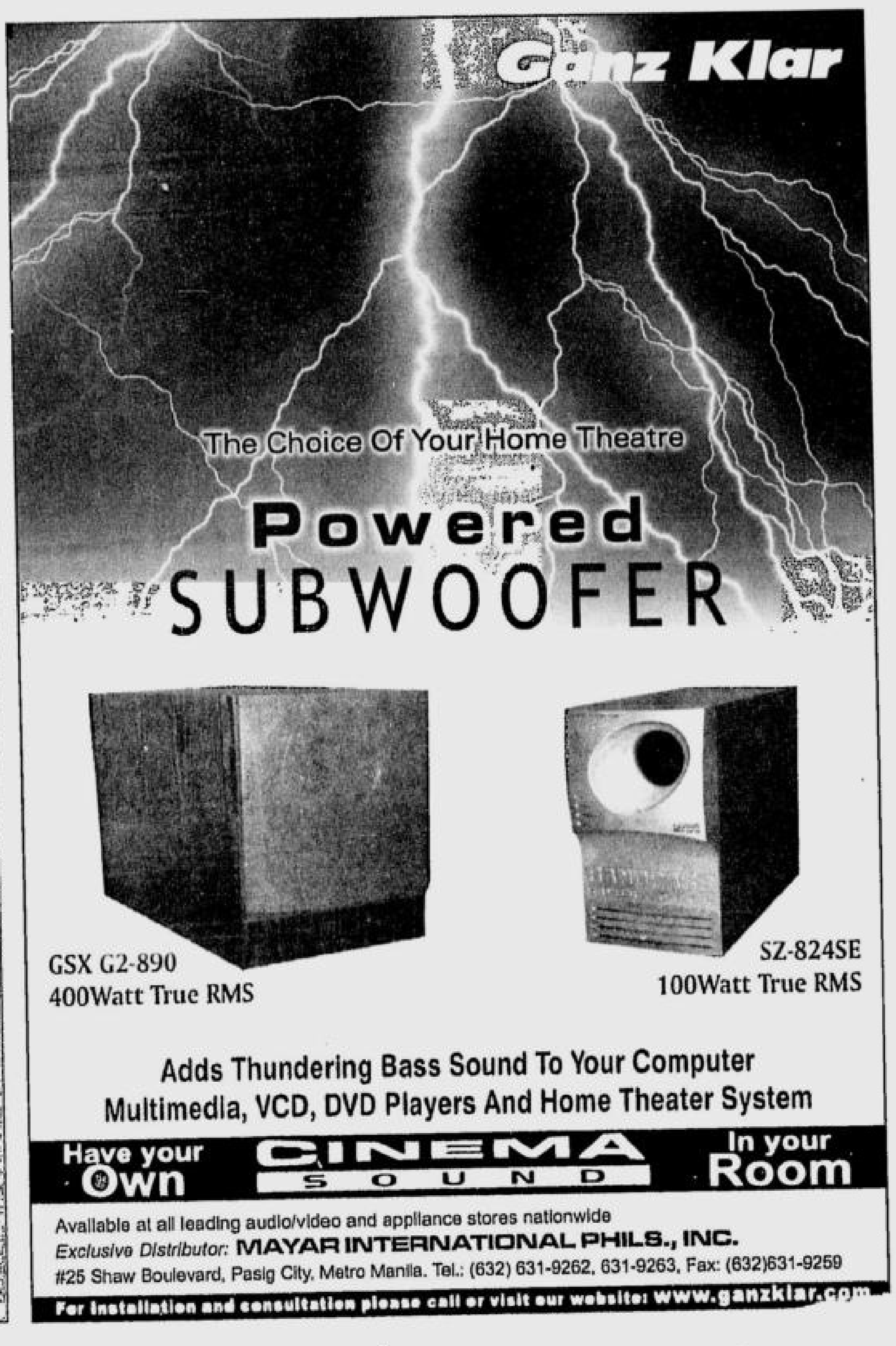

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110 solons seek stay of executions of convicts

By Christine O. Avendaño

A HOUSE resolution that has so far garnered the support of 110 congressmen is expected to be filed next week urging President Macapagal-Arroyo to stay all state executions until Congress repeals the death penalty.

Akbayan Rep. Loretta Ann Rosales said yesterday the House resolution will be submitted to the Senate, which is working with the lower chamber on a joint resolution seeking a moratorium on executions.

"This is our response to Justice Secretary Hernando Perez' statement that a joint resolution by the House and Senate can be one way of stopping implementation of the death penalty law," Rosales said.

Last Tuesday, Perez had said either President Macapagal or a Congressional resolution could stop the Department of Justice from carrying out Republic Act 7659, or the Death Penalty Law.

In an interview, Rosales said the 110 congressmen who support the House resolution include the 102 who had supported a House committee report favoring repeal of RA 7659.

The rest, she said, had supported her letter of appeal last week to President Macapagal to stay all executions.

She said Sen. Francis Pangilinan, chair of the Senate justice and human rights committee, agreed last Wednesday to work with the House on the joint resolution.

The anti-death penalty bill in the House is set for plenary deliberations when Congress returns from a three-week break on Sept. 29.

This after Rosales, chair of the House committee on civil, political and human rights, was able to deliver last Wednesday the sponsorship speech for House Bill 5114, "An Act Abolishing the Death Penalty in the Philippines."

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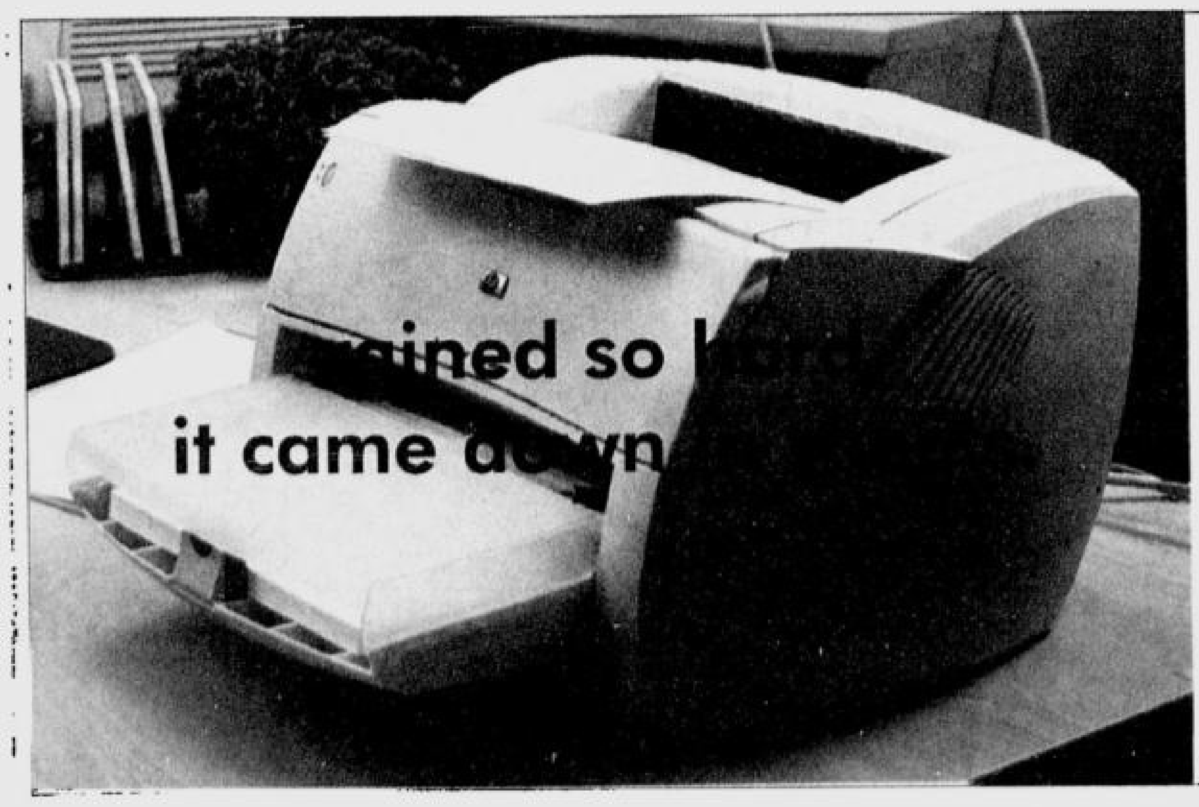

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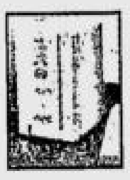

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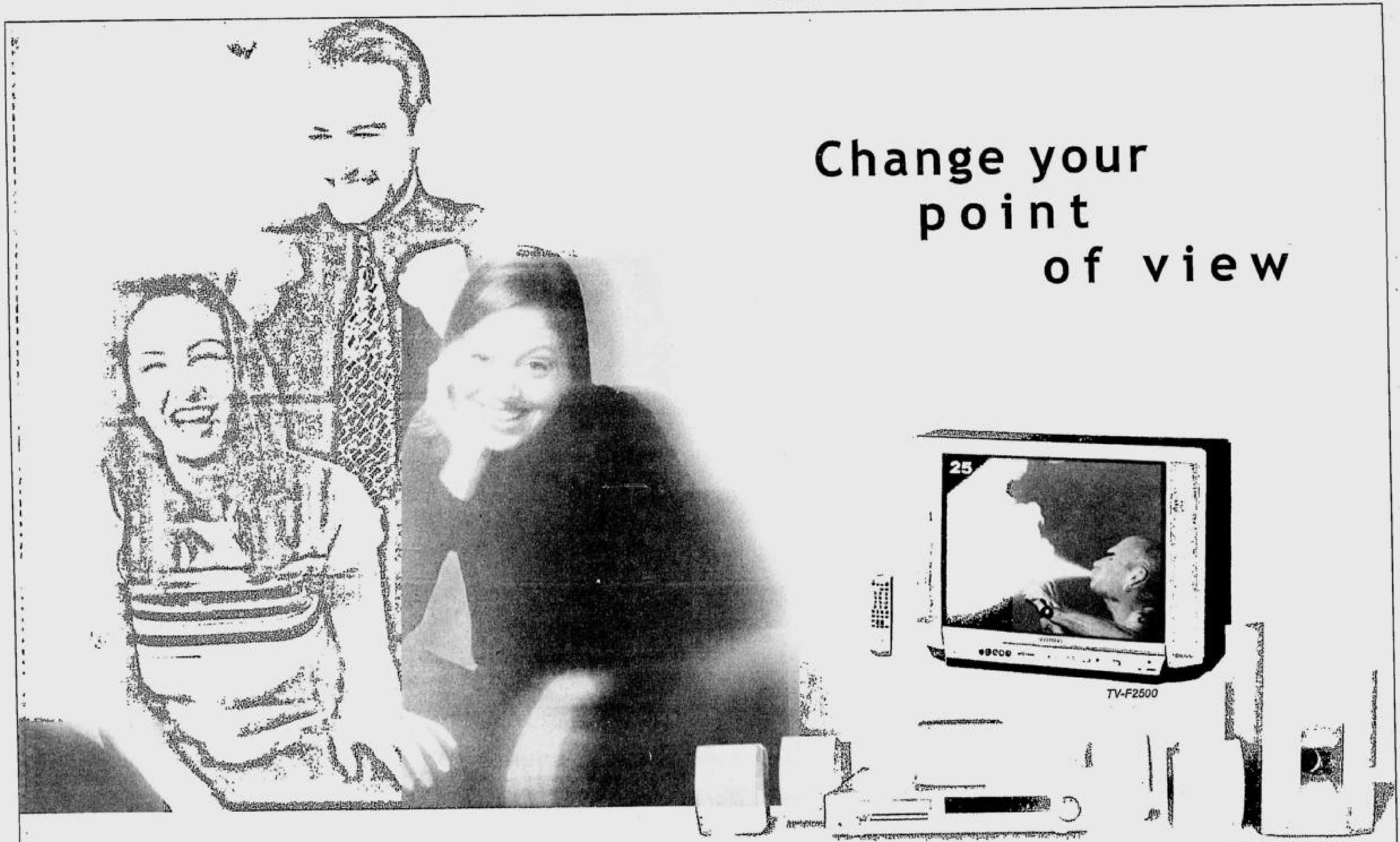

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Pinoy sailors quizzed on sea accident

DUNKIRK, France—French authorities on Wednesday questioned the crew of a Norwegian chemical tanker which allegedly collided with a French fishing boat, killing four of its crew.

The ship, Bow Eagle, was brought up to the French port of Dunkirk under escort and with a team of police on board, but was allowed to resume its voyage to the Netherlands hours later after its owner admitted it had been implicated in the accident.

French police said they had completed their investigations on board and that the tanker had to be quickly released so it could make an "urgent" discharge of its toxic cargo in Rotterdam.

They said they would continue their work Thursday in Rotterdam in cooperation with Norwegian and Dutch authorities.

The Filipino crew of the Norwegian ship and its Norwegian captain face possible charges of manslaughter, fleeing the scene of an accident and not attempting to save the trawler's fishermen.

Collision

Earlier, the Odfjell shipping company based in Bergen, Norway, admitted that the freighter, a 170-meter (560-foot) vessel weighing 15,000 tons, had collided with the 26-meter long trawler Cistude early Monday off France's Atlantic coast.

The tanker had steamed away from the site of the accident as the trawler sank with its distress beacon activated.

Three of the trawler's fishermen were rescued hours later but the four others aboard are still missing, presumed dead.

French authorities focused their suspicions on the tanker Monday, after it signaled from the area of the accident that it had suffered damage to its hull from an "unidentified object."

French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin ordered the ship be brought into Dunkirk for a full inspection after the crew Tuesday denied that it had struck the trawler.

New story

But as a French navy patrol boat, a tug and a coastguard cutter escorted the vessel to the port, and after police, maritime experts and a lawyer for the Norwegian company boarded to make preliminary enquiries and to check the log, the crew changed its story.

"The ship was involved, contrary to the information given yesterday (Tuesday)," a vice-president at Odfjell, Hans Lund, said in a statement issued Wednesday.

He said the Filipino sailor on watch at the time of the accident, around 2:30 am (0030 GMT) Monday, retracted his earlier version of events in front of the French investigators and his captain, who had been asleep when the collision occurred.

"This is a shock for us," Lund said.

He added that, because the incident happened in international waters, the matter fell under the jurisdiction of Norway, where the ship was registered. ***AFP***

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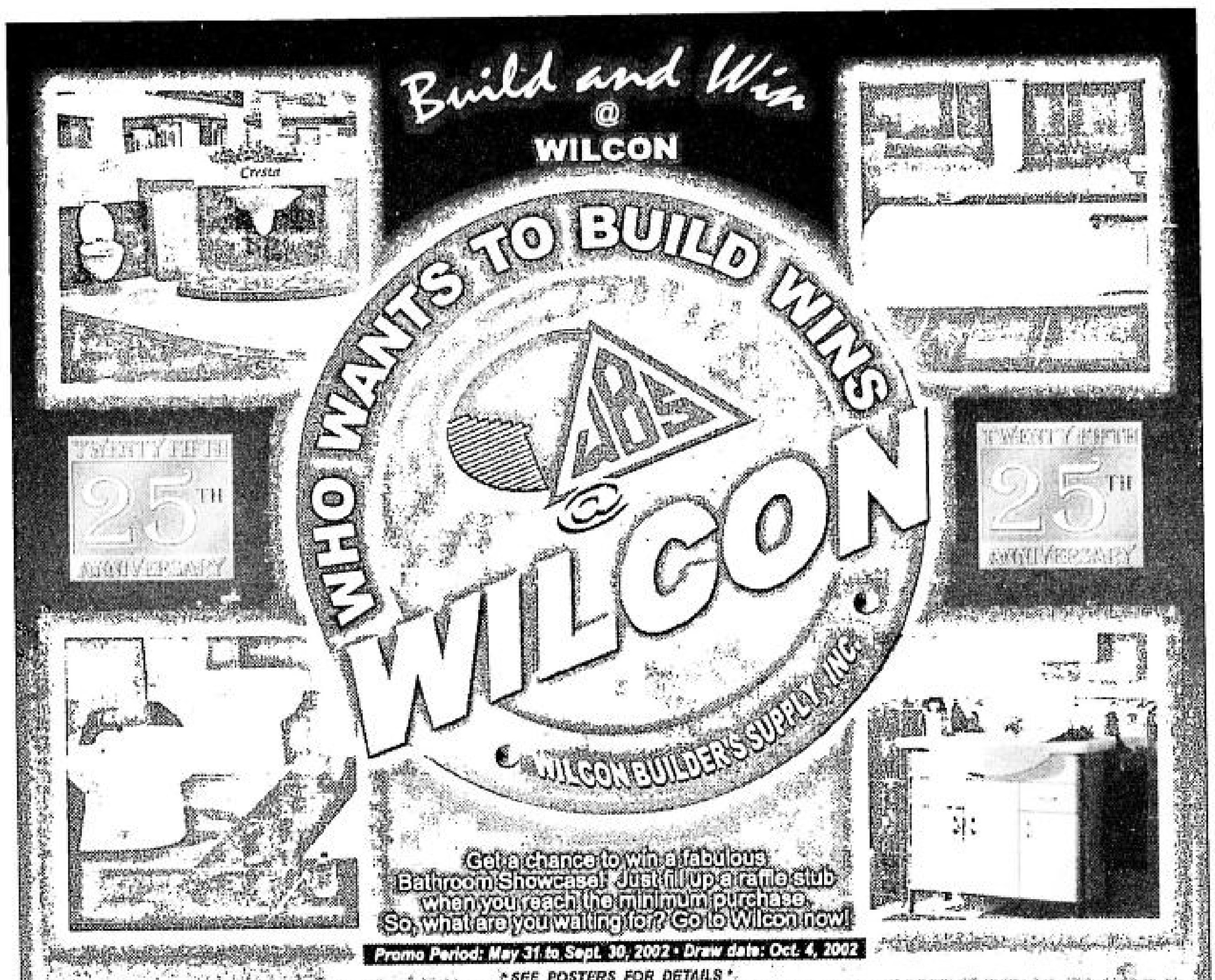
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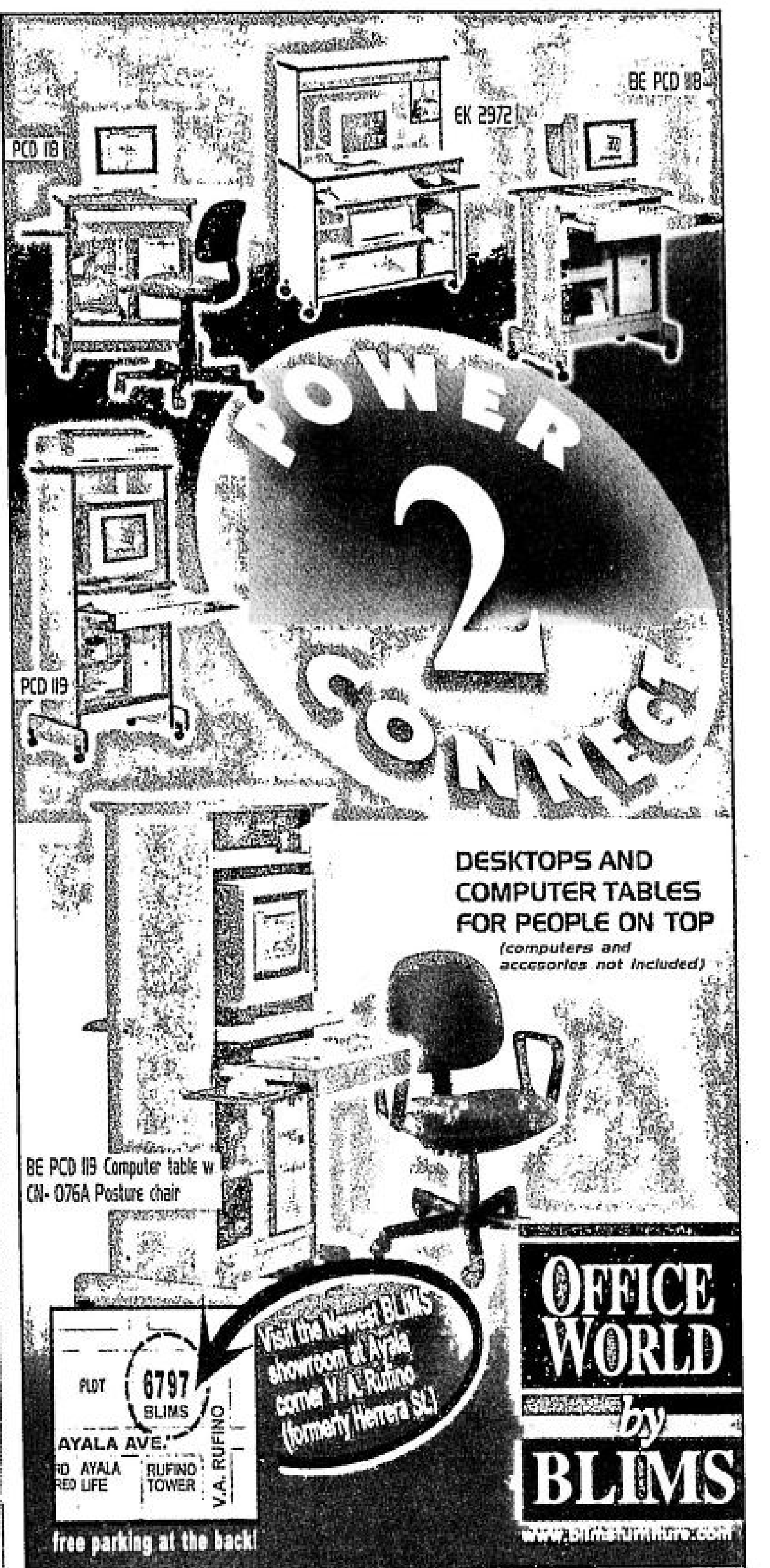
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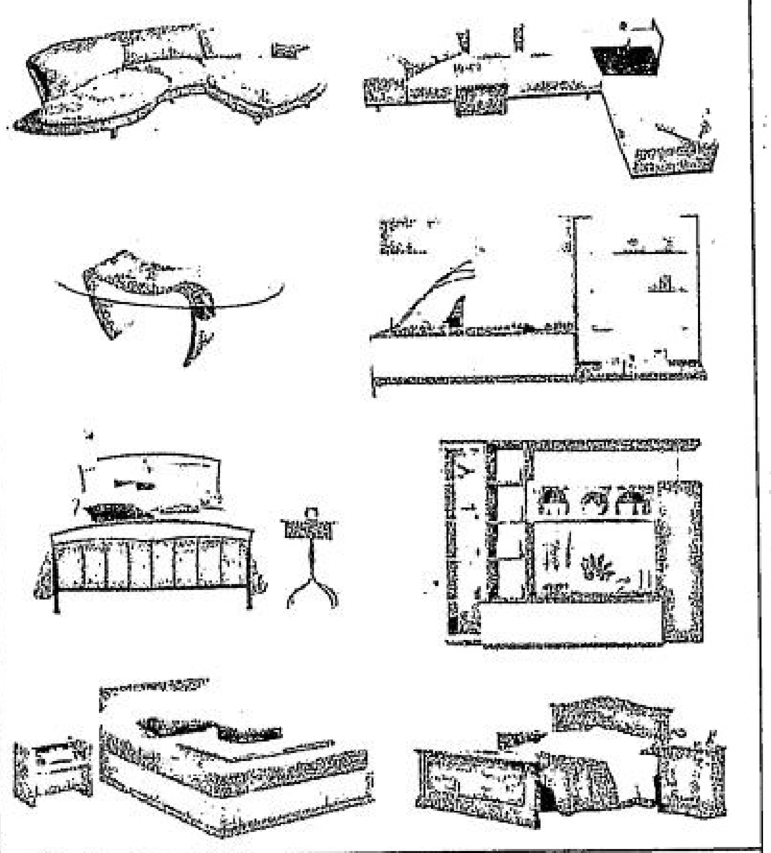
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OPINION

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Reckless spending

EDITORIAL

CREDITORS are knocking at the door, demanding payment of long overdue water, electric and telephone bills. Supplies, like paper and ink, are running out. And if the Department of Budget and Management does not bail it out by providing a supplementary allocation, the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation will have to close shop by October.

Incredible as it may sound, this warning was made by Commissioner Andrea Domingo, who said the BID could not live on the P221-million budget Congress allocated to the agency this year. That amount is less than half of the P450 million the BID got last year, which seems very strange considering that there has been no downsizing in the agency or a major reduction in its functions. That is how irrational the budget process can be, especially when our lawmakers lay their hands on the appropriations bill.

However, if the BID must really shut down, there may be no better time to do so than the week after Congress goes on recess. That is the time when our lawmakers go on foreign junkets. Keeping them grounded might just help them face the reality that the government is running very short of funds.

Large shortfalls in revenue collections have forced the government to operate on a deficit almost from the beginning of the year. In the first six months alone, the deficit had grown to P119 billion, and by July, it exceeded by P3 billion the full-year target of P130 billion. The DBM says the deficit can be held down to P150 billion for the whole year, but the Congressional Planning and Budget Office sees the gap between expenditures and revenues widening to P172 billion unless tax collections pick up in the next four months. On top of that, habitual deficit spending has largely caused the government's outstanding debt to swell to P2.87 trillion as of 2001 from P1.33 trillion in 1996.

Members of the House of Representatives, however, seem to live in a fantasy world of their own. Instead of putting their heads together to find ways of bridging the budget gap, they have raised their voices to demand something that can only widen it some more. Last week, some Lakas partymates of Speaker Jose de Venecia threatened to remove him from his post unless he could persuade the DBM to release what remains of their pork barrel funds totalling P4.6 billion. They also warned that President Macapagal-Arroyo risked going down in defeat in the 2004 elections if she did not give them what they wanted.

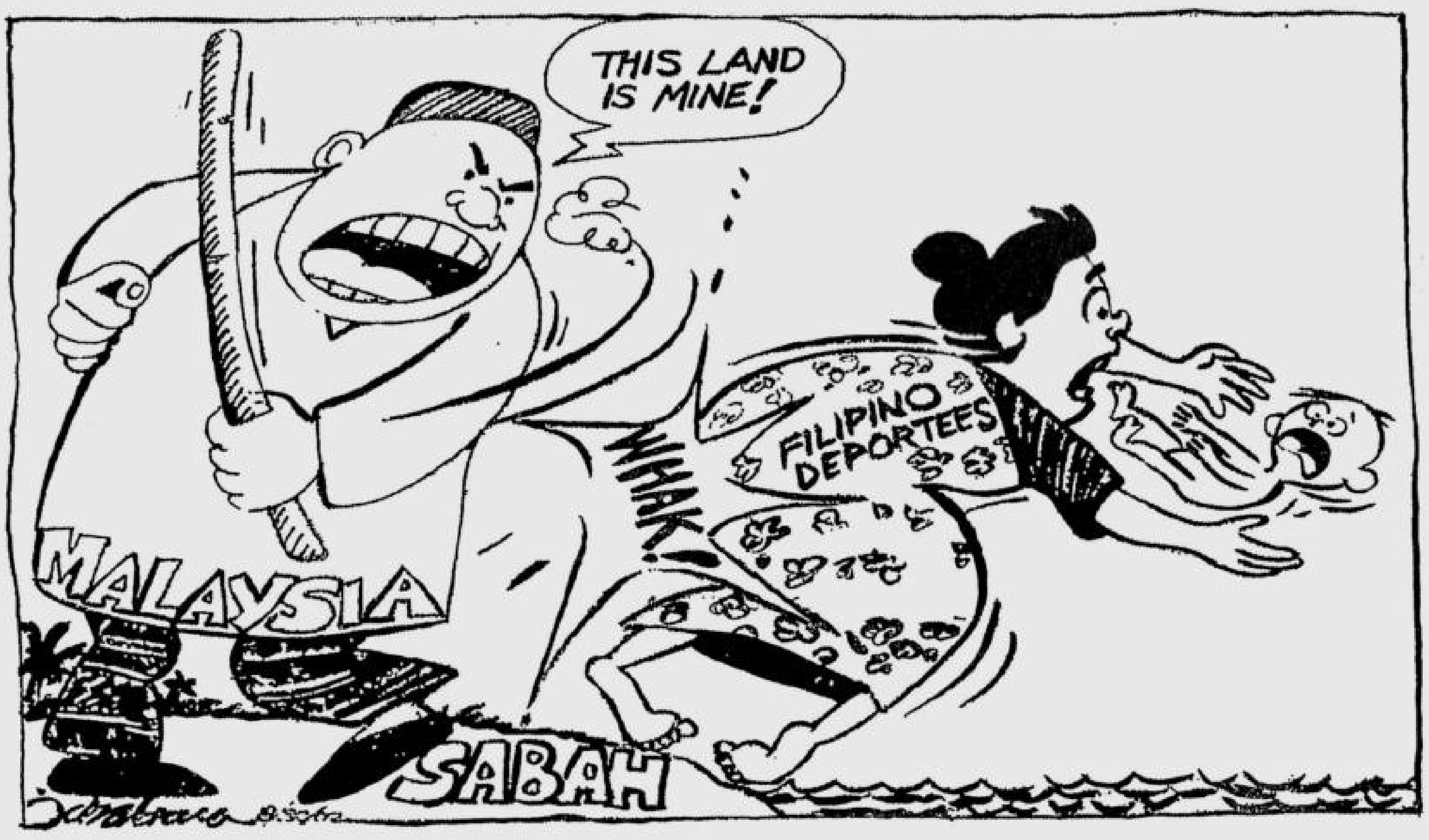
Rep. Jacinto Paras, an administration lawmaker, said what was at stake was "the political survival" of most of his colleagues. The failure to release the pork barrel would be especially painful to those who were serving their first term and who were under pressure to deliver projects. Rep. Ronaldo Zamora agreed, saying that many legislators could lose in the 2004 elections if they failed to deliver projects to their constituents.

But since when has the government been under any obligation to ensure the political survival of any lawmaker? Such statements are a dead giveaway. They are a shameless admission that the projects funded out of the pork barrel are being undertaken not because they are needed or they will redound to the well-being of their constituents, but because it will allow the incumbent to consolidate his position.

There is still another reason some lawmakers are desperately seeking the release of their pork barrel. They need to recover the millions they spent to get elected. Of course, some lawmakers can do this by accepting money from powerful lobbies. But there is no easier way to get back what they "invested" than asking for kickbacks from favored contractors who are awarded contracts to carry out the pork barrel projects. Thus, regardless of the size of the deficit or the national debt and regardless of whether the operations of some agencies grind to a halt for lack of funds, our lawmakers must absolutely have their pork barrel.

Time and again, the pork barrel has been shown to be an imprudent, wasteful and graft-ridden way to spend taxpayers' money. Given the tight financial fix the government now finds itself in, continuing such disbursements is an irresponsible and reckless exercise. It is hard to believe that the President, a trained economist, and her financial managers didn't see it this way. So why did they agree to release at least a part of it?

Well, there's an election to be won in 2004. So fiscal prudence can go hang in the meantime.



Caliraya dam endangers six Laguna towns

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

LAST AUG. 26, the INQUIRER published a disturbing report by Tony Bergonia about cracks in the spillway of the Caliraya dam in Laguna that threaten the lives of 80,000 people living below the dam. The cracks leak water and the whole spillway vibrates "like a small earthquake" when water is released to run the power plant's turbines. The editorial the next day, "Living on the edge," spurs us to write once more on the controversy-ridden Caliraya-Botocan-Kalayaan (CBK) rehabilitation project awarded to the Argentine contractor Impsa (Industrias Metalurgicas Pescarmona Sociedad Anonima) under a build-rehabilitate-operate-turnover (BROT) contract.

It's bad enough that, as already exposed before in media, Asisclo Gonzaga, president of the National Power Corp.'s spin-off National Transmission Co. (Transco), whose franchise is now being debated in Congress, issued a certificate of completion giving CBK Corp., the Philippine subsidiary of Impsa, the good housekeeping seal in the rehabilitation of Unit I of Kalayaan, part of the CBK power plant complex. By virtue of said certificate, CBK Corp. stands to receive some P2.4 billion from the Philippine government for work never undertaken, much less completed.

Worse, Gonzaga's clearance endangers thousands of lives.

In an obvious effort to cover his ass and to hide the fact that rehabilitation work was never completed, Gonzaga issued last May a "waiver on the completion of remaining common activities for Kalayaan I plant."

The waiver, which includes at least 33 components of the rehabilitation plan, practically covers the whole scope of Impsa's contracted work for Kalayaan I.

The waiver means that Impsa would no longer undertake those contracted work, but would still be paid "capital recovery fees" as if the work was actually completed.

On top of the long list of waived project components is the construction of a new spillway at the Caliraya part of the CBK complex.

The original Caliraya spillway was constructed back in 1939 to allow the overflow of excess water from the Caliraya Lake during heavy rains. At that time, Caliraya had a generation capacity of only 32 megawatts.

By the 1970s, the plant had expanded to a capacity of 300 megawatts. Obviously, the Caliraya spillway has been subjected to higher stresses beyond its design capacity.

Through the years, the Caliraya spillway suffered structural damage on top of the normal wear and tear. Repairs were undertaken from time to time, but only on a patch-up basis.

Three years ago, a Napocor engineering report recommended immediate repairs on the existing spillway and, more important, the construction of a new one.

Napocor management approved the recommendation. The repair of the old spillway together with the construction of a new one, were integrated in the CBK contract awarded to Impsa.

On his own, Gonzaga erased the spillway component of the contract. He did it without the legal personality to do so, he being president of Transco which has nothing to do at all in the BROT contract, Napocor being the contracting party. If any waiver is to be made at all, it has to be approved by the Napocor board.

The typhoon and flood season is upon us. What if the old spillway collapses? It is 63 years old and was built to withstand the stress of only a 32-megawatt plant but which has now grown to 300 megawatts.

As the INQUIRER editorial warned, "A disaster is waiting to happen!"

If the old spillway collapses, the water volume of the Caliraya Lake, estimated at 86 million tons, will cascade down to the Laguna plains, endangering at least six towns—Cavinti, Lumban, Pagsanjan, Kalayaan, Paete and Pakil. At least 80,000 people will be at risk.

All because of Gonzaga covering his behind in the anomalous issuance of a certificate of completion for work never completed. He is already suspected of allowing Impsa to collect P2.4 billion for nothing. Can he be forgiven for endangering the lives of 80,000 people?

That certificate of completion, by the way, has been contested by Napocor engineers.

Gonzaga had certified that "Unit 2 has successfully completed its Acceptance Test as of the date of contractor's Notice of Completion of Oct. 12, 2000 and therefore the completion date of Unit 2 has been achieved."

The "Acceptance Test"—a requisite in the payment of contractors' bills—is the responsibility of Napocor's Systems Operations (SO) department.

On Feb. 20, 2001, R.T. Bacani, Napocor vice president for systems operations, shot a memo to Gonzaga that opened thus:

"We regret that Systems Operations was not consulted prior to the issuance of Certificate of Completion to CBK Power Corp. on the rehabilitation works of Unit 2 of Kalayaan I BROT project. SO, being responsible in the dispatch of power facilities in the Luzon grid, laments that such projects with very critical role in the power system, was never referred to us for evaluation and scrutiny upon the completion of the project."

SO contested the alleged completion of rehabilitation work. On the contrary, the plant had deteriorated. Prior to rehabilitation, Unit 2 was operating perfectly on automatic generation control (AGC) mode. Now the unit has to be operated manually.

The memo to Gonzaga also cited transformer defects which "resulted in the inability of the unit to deliver appropriate voltage whenever required."

Once more with feeling

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

I GOT mixed reactions from my column last Tuesday where I protested Bayani Fernando's plan to set fire to the wares of sidewalk vendors. The praise and damnation came in equal measure.

The letter-writers who objected (some of them bitterly) to that column pointed out the following. One, the anarchy and disorder in the sidewalks caused by the unruly vendors are not unlike the anarchy and disorder in the parking lot in our housing project caused by the unruly residents. If I find the latter oppressive and insane, why shouldn't I find the former so as well? Two, to quote Fernando, poverty is not an excuse to break the law. The vendors are breaking the law, they should pay the price. Three, Fernando is showing political will, unlike other government officials and *trapos.* He deserves our support, not our criticism.

My answer to the first point is: Not at all. There is a difference between the idiots who have turned our parking lot into a gridlock at night by parking on every available space and the sidewalk vendors of Quiapo, Avenida Rizal, and Divisoria. The difference being that the idiots who do this to our parking lot have a choice, and that is not to do it at all. They can always park at the back of the housing project, which is wide and nearly empty even at night. That is what I do when I come home late. I park there. We are not dealing here with a bunch of people who have been driven by desperation to this anarchy. We are dealing with a bunch of people who are fairly well off, which is why they have cars to begin with, who are too lazy to do the right thing.

That is the crucial difference, necessity and choice, which lies at the heart of this problem. The nature of poverty is precisely the lack of choice, the being driven hither and thither by the flailing of necessity. To imagine that the sidewalk vendors are a bunch of spoiled brats who can easily relocate and ply their trade elsewhere is to miss the point. They are not there because they are reveling in super profits from the unfair advantage they have over those who pay for their stalls, they are there because they have nowhere else to go. Fernando's suggestion that they relocate inside markets and avail of micro-credit is simplistic. The cost of stalls is well beyond their reach, as is any credit from the formal lending sector. These are people who live from day to day and get by only with the help of the friendly neighborhood Bombay.

None of this is to say that we shouldn't do anything about the obstacle and hazard they pose to traffic. If we can give them a designated area where they can sell their wares, such as a night market, well and good. But if not, well, as I said that is something that should be resolved by the combined efforts of various national government agencies, chief of them the ones set up to combat poverty. Not reduced to a mere traffic problem to be resolved by (quite literally) incendiary means. We already saw in April of last year the ugly face of the deprived and desperate unleashing their fury—the so-called "Edsa III." Unless we like to see that replicated, and far more furiously, we had better think this one through a little more carefully. I'm all for *aksyon agad*, but I'm more for *isip muna*.

I agree 101 percent: Poverty may not be an excuse to break the law. Rape is breaking the law, murder is breaking the law, theft and robbery are breaking the law. You may not use poverty as an excuse to rape, rob and kill. But what the sidewalk vendors are doing is selling wares, however they can, wherever they can. They are deriving an honest income from the sweat of their brow. Arguably, they are doing so in a way that poses tremendous inconveniences to commuters and pedestrians. But they are not breaking the law in the sense that criminals are. To treat them as such, that is not just unenlightened, that is dangerous.

What happens when you drive people who are trying to eke out a living within the folds of the law, even if on in its fringes, out of it? What happens when you shove people who have very few options in life, if any, away from the very narrow option they've already taken? The line between bending the law and breaking it is a very thin one, particularly for those who have nothing to lose. Or who have been given nothing to lose.

Finally, there is one important corollary to poverty not being an excuse to break the law. That is: wealth may not be an excuse to break the law. That is what I find startling in all this, our differential attitudes toward the rich and poor. The sidewalk vendors block the sidewalks and streets and we throw the book at them and say "Such is law." The rich do not pay their taxes (taxation in this country is regressive in the extreme) and we shrug our shoulders and say, "Such is life." The sidewalk vendors rail against the plan to drive them out of the streets and threaten to hold protest rallies, and we say they are blackmailing us. The oil companies rail against the plan to make them sell oil at their true value and threaten to pull out of the country, and we say let us relent, they are doing us a favor. We want to stop lawlessness and anarchy, let us not look at the poor, let us look at the rich.

I do have one serious suggestion, and that is for Fernando to be reassigned from the MMDA to the BIR. Forget Guillermo Parayno. If Fernando can show the same zeal toward tax evaders, like Lucio Tan, I will call him the best public official this country has ever had. If he will threaten to pour gasoline on the mansions of those who refuse to pay their correct taxes, posing thereby a monumental obstacle and hazard to the progress of this country, I will herald the advent of a true leader.

I'll even help him spread the fire.

* * *

Comments to dequiros@vasia.com

Putting the administration on the spot

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

THE HARSH treatment by Malaysia of Filipinos being deported from Sabah is rapidly building up into an explosive foreign relations conflict similar to that arising from the Flor Contemplation execution in 1995, in Singapore.

Within days of the arrival of the deportees and the disclosure of footage showing signs of mistreatment of Filipinos, a spontaneous combustion of public opinion anger toward Malaysia has developed.

In no time at all, the Department of Foreign Affairs has lodged a diplomatic protest with Kuala Lumpur against the "inhumane treatment" of Filipino migrants, and members of Congress are calling for the revival of the Philippines' claim to Sabah initiated in 1962 by President Diosdado Macapagal.

The explanations by the Malaysian government are not calming Filipino reaction. On the contrary, they are fanning local public opinion because they fly in the face of TV footage and interviews with deportees. The claim of Malaysian officials that the deportation has nothing to do with the death of a number of children either in detention camps or in transit in overcrowded boats merely rubs salt on an open wound.

Not only are the Malaysian explanations patronizing. For example, the statement of Malaysian Ambassador Mohammad Noor Taufik that the deportation would have been more orderly and less disruptive if the Filipino illegal migrants had left before the deadline on Aug. 1, insults Filipinos.

The Malaysian law which lays down harsh punishment—at least six months in jail and six strokes of the cane—is evidence of the medieval torture method, if not the mentality, of law enforcement in Malaysia. Caning is actually flogging people with rattan cane and is excruciatingly painful. Filipinos in Malaysia dread this punishment. So they would rather endure being herded into overcrowded detention camps, where lives of children are at risk, rather than be flogged.

To be sure, members of Congress are inflaming public resentment and are calling for the revival of the Sabah issue partly to win political points. The Sabah claim has always been a time bomb in Philippine-Malaysian relations for the past 40 years. It has been the fuse of diplomatic tensions several times in the past, resulting in the suspension in the 1960s of diplomatic relations between Manila and Kuala Lumpur, over the Jabidah massacre.

The massacre involved the killing of a number of Filipino Muslims in Corregidor, who were being trained by the Marcos administration in the clandestine plan to infiltrate Sabah with agitators to fan separatist tendencies in that East Malaysian state. The disclosure of this plan provoked the suspension of diplomatic relations for some time.

Filipino diaspora to neighboring countries has been an important trigger of diplomatic conflict between the Philippines and other Asean countries, particularly Singapore and Malaysia. On March 17, 1995, the execution of the Filipino maid, Flor Contemplacion, in Singapore, on a charge of having killed another Filipino woman and her Singaporean ward, touched off an explosion of Filipino anger over the execution.

Filipino public opinion was stirred up not so much because Contemplacion was executed but because the Singaporean government rejected appeals of the Ramos administration for a stay in the execution. The Filipinos took the rejection as "inhumane." In the same vein, Filipino public opinion is taking the Malaysian crackdown on "illegal" Filipinos as evidence of barbaric, if not inhumane, treatment of Filipino deportees.

Public opinion pressure is putting the Macapagal administration on the spot, as it did the Ramos administration. It is in the interest of President Macapagal-Arroyo to contain the conflict from spreading into a wide conflagration that will rupture diplomatic relations with Malaysia. At this stage of cooperation between Manila and Kuala Lumpur over border crossing by outlaws (like the Abu Sayyaf), over containing Islamic fundamentalist militancy and over expanding economic ties, the Macapagal administration has to tiptoe its way around the dispute.

This is the reason why the government has been slow to react to the apparent abuses on Filipino deportees and why it had taken days before the DFA could lodge a diplomatic protest. The administration has to walk a tightrope to avoid a break of diplomatic relations while preventing a Filipino public opinion backlash on the administration.

The Ramos administration suffered from the backlash of the public perception that it had not done enough to stave off the execution of Contemplacion and that it was indifferent to the abuses of Filipino overseas workers. As a consequence, Ramos' popularity tumbled. Singapore rejected the Philippine government's appeals for a stay of execution in accordance with its implacable adherence to the impersonal approach to administration of justice. Filipinos did not take it that way.

Bowing to public opinion pressure, the Ramos administration downgraded diplomatic relations with Singapore despite the fact that among Asean countries, the Philippines had fewer problems, either political or economic, with Singapore.

The exodus from Malaysia presents the Macapagal administration with its first test in conflict management over Philippine relations with our neighbors. It is more incendiary than former President Joseph Estrada's public support for former Malaysian deputy prime minister, Anwar Ibrahim, who has been jailed by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad in what is widely seen as a power struggle between them.

Obscenity

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THERE'S a new controversy in the local entertainment world, and no, it's not about someone or some couple's romantic bloopers.

This time it's about real bloopers on TV, specifically two contests on the top rival noontime variety shows that's got viewers disgusted, disturbed, dejected but sufficiently devoted, to judge from the ratings.

Never paragons of decency and good taste, both "Eat Bulaga" and "Magandang Tanghali Bayan" sunk to new lows of exploitation when they had contestants competing for a cash prize by eating or plunging their faces into all sorts of creepy crawlies, from worms to lizards to insects and even water snakes.

Apparently, the stations had been receiving complaints from viewers who said the stomach-churning challenges not only debased the contestants but also ruined their lunch. Despite these complaints, though, the audience seemed unable to tune out, in much the same way motorists have to slow down at the scene of a smash-up, or else the shows would not have sustained the contests, or turned up the "eeugh!" factor, in a bid to beat the competition.

And these disgusting challenges weren't even original. They were based on a foreign show called "Fear Factor" in which teams compete by accomplishing all sorts of unsavory tasks. One of the most difficult challenges, apparently, was having the American contestants try their hand at eating *balut*, and judging from the groans that issued from them, you'd think *balut* was the most vile form of sustenance ever to exist.

"Fear Factor" apparently has received extensive notice and respectable ratings, so it was only a matter of time before local counterparts were produced.

* * *

THE SITUATION might have remained at a standoff—viewers protesting the vile contests while the shows' producers and advertisers used the notoriety to rack up even higher ratings—had not a busybody congressman stepped in.

Rep. Willie Villarama of Bulacan, interviewed on a radio show-biz talk show, said he isn't in the habit of watching daytime TV but managed to catch the "'Sak Mo" portion of "Eat Bulaga" on GMA-7 recently while at the airport.

Also at the waiting lounge at that time were several foreign ambassadors and DFA officials. It so happened that the TV set at the lounge was tuned in to Channel 7, and though the sound was turned down low, the action on the screen was enough to elicit dismayed reactions from some ambassadors.

"I felt ashamed as a Filipino to have our people appear on TV apparently so desperate for money they would dive face-down on a plate full of worms," Villarama told the interviewers. So he filed a resolution calling for an inquiry into these vile forms of "entertainment," which apparently roused the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board from its catatonia, at least where daytime TV is concerned.

The latest word is that "Eat Bulaga" has called a halt to "'Sak Mo," while on "MTB" on Channel 2 yesterday, the game was reduced to such an innocuous challenge as daring three contestants to peel and slice a pile of onions without breaking into tears.

* * *

COMMENTATORS rightly point out that the copycat "Fear Factor" challenges not only disgusted televiewers and sent the wrong messages and twisted values to young viewers. These also posed potentially harmful consequences to the health of the contestants, many of them presumably already so poor and desperate they were willing to sacrifice health, dignity, if not sanity just to win the cash prize.

Producers say they had taken pains to protect the contestants. The worms, for instance, were "cultured," and would not have been carriers of germs and other harmful organisms. But what if one of the contestants suffered a heart attack as a result of the awful things he or she had to undergo? What if someone had a nervous breakdown?

And how could the good *manangs* and *manongs* of the MTRCB, they who are so adept at counting nipples and breast exposures in local films, have overlooked the vile contests and let them go on for such a long time?

Or, for that matter, how could they let the noontime variety shows, which unlike movies are beamed into every home with a TV set, watched avidly by viewers from toddlers to oldsters in their dotage, get away with so much for so long?

I mean, what does it say about the dignity of women if the predominant image of women on noontime TV is that of a tart in a bikini grinding away behind contestants and urging them to go for the big prize? And if the MTRCB is so against the exploitation of Filipino maidenhood, then why do they tolerate all those searches for "Miss Sexy Bikini" or some such flesh show which require hopefuls to gyrate in their skimpiest wear?

* * *

I'M NOT being a prude here, mind. But there are hundreds of ways to be obscene and some don't even require the baring of flesh.

Obscenity is a male host ogling a teenage contestant while she does a dance number, then requesting for an "innocent" kiss before he lets her go after an interview. Obscenity is cracking double-entendres while interviewing children, children!, in the course of a search for "Little Miss Philippines." Obscenity is letting the good-looking hosts slap around, push, nudge, ridicule and otherwise degrade less palatable comics who seem to exist only as mascots or objects of fun.

And to think such obscenities are allowed on national TV, in the daytime, for all members of the family to appreciate, imbibe and perhaps imitate.

That's the state of popular entertainment, Philippine-style.

* * *

Comments to rjdavid@inquirer.com.ph

Mama Sita's diaries

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

TERESITA Reyes Reyes (1917-1998) is a name that doesn't ring a bell, but mention "Mama Sita" and you remember that smiling face that launched thousands of packets of instant food mixes. When I heard that she left a diary, I asked for a copy and was handed four green plastic folders containing photocopies of the manuscript as well as a legible and accurate transcription to make my work easier. The first volume is a manuscript, written in 1983, that was a big disappointment. All the opening pages show that Mama Sita was into the Science of Mind or SOM fad. Mama Sita was obviously ill and resorted to alternative medicine and psychic healing.

Her diary documents her efforts to become a positive force in the world and she listed down good deeds she did daily: greeting Thelma, kissing and embracing Fidel, said good morning to Paterna, Matilde, Fe, Cecilla, Nora, Wila, Kety, Frank, Leo, Yoly, Boots and Dading. She prays, talks to her plants, waits patiently in line to kiss the Santo Niño in Tondo. Spare change is distributed to the needy, friends and family are sent fresh fruit. She even offers her excess blood sugar to her tamarind plants to induce them to bear sweet and luscious fruit.

Having lived with a short-tempered diabetic mother who loves to overeat and cook these last 41 years, I could appreciate and understand where Mama Sita was coming from. The second and third volumes, written a decade later, from August 1992 to February 1993, are much more substantial. The manuscript for Volume 2 is interesting in itself because Mama Sita, ever the economical one, recycled an empty 1989 desk diary and filled it with her thoughts on life and cooking. On some pages, she even drew what she was writing about—cuts of meat, how to slice chicken for *lugaw*, the best parts of a fish, etc. This reminded me of a soiled notebook that our old cook used to keep. What made Mama Sita's manuscript different was that she was not just giving recipes, but was reflecting on a long culinary life. Volume 2 begins with the familiar Filipino comfort food—*lugao*. She even wonders about the origin of *arroz caldo* and suggests that it could have been invented by her own lola Luisa, "*Palagay ko ay baka siya, sapagkat may lahi tayo ng matakaw at alamin kung alin ang masarap at pinakamurang kainin. Ganyan ang mga taga*-Malabon, *mapamaraan, lalo na sa* business." Her frankness means she didn't know a stranger would be going over her notebooks.

Mama Sita writes about the difference "native" chicken makes to the taste of *lugao*. They even used "native *tandang*" (which was cheaper than hens) for chicken sandwiches served at Aristocrat restaurant. They did not buy commercial dressed chicken and preferred live "native" chicken from Cebu and Pangasinan. The difference in taste, however, came with a price—lots of garbage and feathers, plus the trouble of dressing the chicken. A sampling of her down to earth observations:

"*Marami ang mahilig sa mga nilugawang manok, nilugawang ulo ng baboy, arroz caldo* Aristocrat, Goto King, *sapagkat ito ay magandang pamatid-gutom at murang-mura, bukod sa mas madaling tunawin at malinamnam pa kung ikaw ay gagamit ng tamang* ingredients. *Kung may sakit ka, karaniwan lugaw ang kinakain mo. Kung may anak kang maliit, sa lugaw din ang lagpak mo. Kung ikaw ay nagmamadali, ito din madalas ang napipili mong kainin. Kung ikaw ay kapos sa* budget, *kwento sa akin ng isang* reporter, *at noong galing ka sa sine na may ka-*date *at ang pera mo ay mga* P100 *na lamang at uuwi ka na madaling araw at medyo gutom ka na, tamang-tama ito na tig-isang* order *at pang-*taxi *at konting tip...*"

Mama Sita reads as though she was merely talking to a friend. Her simplicity masks a lifetime of culinary knowledge and experience. There are tips on types of food, cooking, recycling, restaurant operation, sourcing of supplies. She may be the face on instant *sinigang, adobo, kare-kare,* etc. but her diary talks about the importance of the right ingredients, fresh local produce and slow cooking that we in the age of "fast food," tend to forget. Even her childhood memories of shaved ice flavored with strawberry or lemon syrup has resonance in our times:

"*Nuong* pre-war, *halos bawat eskwelahan, may katabing* refreshment parlor *na* operated by *mga Hapon. Ang tinda nila ay halo-halo, mongo con hielo at gatas,* egg pie, *pianono, hopia monggo, sarsaparilla,* lemonade, *gulaman, leche flan,* etc.*...ang pinakamadaling bilhin...iyong ginadgad na hielo, sinasahod ng papel na puti, at wiwisikan ng* strawberry, etc. syrup. *Iyong iba hindi na nilalagyan ng* syrup *basta hielo lamang, kung baga parang* snow cones *ngayon...napaka* refreshing *naman...wala ngang kutsarang pang kain nuon eh. Kinakamay lamang...maganda sigurong mausong muli.*"

Mama Sita's diaries are not just the random jottings of a retired diabetic foodie, it is both a historical and social document that mirrors not just Mama Sita's personal experience but also the Philippines of her time. I hope that Mama Sita's relatives succeed in gathering all the used notebooks she filled with her memories, reflections and impressions. When edited and published as a book, these diaries will establish Mama Sita's rightful place in Philippine culinary history.

Comments are welcome at ambeth@admu.edu.ph

The concept of 'nation'

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

HONOLULU—It's that time of the year again when we in the political science faculty have to face beginning college students to introduce them to the basic concepts of politics—government, constitution, bureaucracy, democracy, socialism, pluralism, public policy, political culture, ideology, interest groups, political parties, legislatures, legitimacy, representation, due process, sovereignty, consent of the governed, opposition, etc. And now we have to include such concepts as "terrorism" and "national security." The list gets longer every semester.

This exercise reminds me a bit about my civics classes in grade school, except that in those days civics was limited to government and citizenship. I bewail the fact that such civics classes are hardly offered anymore and that students are increasingly becoming illiterate on matters involving government and politics, among other things. They just don't care because they think politics doesn't affect their lives.

Proof of this illiteracy can easily be seen in the answers students today write in the "definition" or "identification" part of classroom exams. My favorite examples are how they define, say, "democracy" or "communism." Frequently, I get answers like democracy is "the freedom to do whatever you want to do." Not the best answer but I can live with that. At least, it reflects the basic concept of "freedom," though not the other concepts of "responsibility" and "obligation."

But I cracked up one time when I asked for a definition of "communism" when the Soviet Union was falling apart early in the last decade. One student wrote, "It is supposed to be bad!" When I asked this student where he picked up that definition, thinking maybe his father was the culprit, he said, "from my high school teacher." Teachers are illiterate as well.

Essential differences

I was in the midst of preparing my course syllabus, which includes a section on political concepts, when I came across Randy David's recent column on "deconstructing" the notion of the "strong republic." In his usual reflective and incisive style, David suggested that the term "nation" might have been more apropos than "republic" in President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's latest State of the Nation Address.

Many would consider this quibbling and others would see it as just a difference in words or terms rather than in meaning. But it is, as the saying goes, a distinction with a difference, a very essential difference. It's not trivial.

Marker

As David rightly points out, a "republic" or a "state" means a form of government, an apparatus, a mechanism, an organization, a physical framework, a structure that doesn't imply any values for governance like "good" or "democratic" or "inclusive." Often we see heads of "state" as embodiments of all that is evil in society. Sometimes they are mere hacks, figureheads or monarchs symbolizing a corrupt past or a particular tradition. And "republic" may simply be a way of naming or numbering a particular historical landmark, as in the "first Philippine republic," or the "fifth French republic" under De Gaulle. In either case, it doesn't mean much. It's a marker, nothing else.

But the concept of "nation" means and symbolizes and conveys much more. It has much deeper roots and meanings. I remember that when I first started graduate school, one of the first books we had to read was the somewhat dense but interesting treatise by Rupert Emerson titled "From Empire to Nation." The nation is a community of people, Emerson theorizes, "who feel that they belong together in the double sense that they share deeply significant elements of common heritage, and that they have a common destiny for the future." When the chips are down, Emerson continues, this sense of nation "effectively commands men's loyalty, overriding the claims of both the lesser communities within it and those which cut across it or potentially enfold within it a still greater society, reaching ultimately to mankind as a whole." Ultimately, the nation seeks to take over the "state" as the "political instrument through which it can protect and assert itself."

Broader, deeper concept

It should be obvious that the concept of nation is broader and deeper than just a "state" or "republic." It has to be taken as the measure of any state or republic. I like the way prominent social scientist O.D. Corpuz titled his two-volume masterpiece: "The Roots of the Filipino Nation." It comes with a caveat, however. "This is a story of the Filipinos and their forefathers," Corpuz writes, "on the long road to becoming, or failing to become, the nation that they can be." It should be a required reading in all our schools. At least, all history, political science and other social science majors should be required to read it.

"Can be?" one might ask. It is a legitimate question because by Emerson's definition, as well as others who came after him, we are really not a "nation." Inhabitants of a significant portion of our Philippine archipelago in the south and in the hinterland up north and elsewhere are not or don't feel like they belong to the "Filipino nation." The Philippine "republic" or "state" over centuries can hardly claim to be a "nation" in the true sense of the term because of the way it has treated the periphery, which has not been colonized or "mainstreamed."

The other salient distinction that can be made about "states" (or "republics") on the one hand, and "nations" is that, the former are artificial constructions or creations which come and go through centuries. "Indochina" was one such artificial construction by the French. "Nations" on the other hand, are evolutionary communities with a certain sense of themselves as having distinct identities and languages (though not always, of course).

Therefore, a sense of "nation" or "nationhood" must precede governmental structures or institutional forms. A "nation" is a natural creation. It is continuously evolving, which is why we continue to hear the concept "nationbuilding" long after a "nation" has been formed. Any standard political science textbook will argue that nations do not fall from heaven. They are made. They are, according to Michael Roskin et al., "created by human craftsmanship of varying degrees of quality."

And David is quite right about the other basic concept of "strong people." Groups of people with kindred feelings and common goals must antedate any institutional structure or formation.

At the risk of being presumptuous, President Macapagal might consider substituting "nation" for "state" or "republic" in future speeches. It's much more compelling. It means so much more symbolically and realistically. We are still a very weak nation, although it's amazing that we haven't fallen apart in spite of our geographical and social fragmentation, unlike the Balkans.

Maybe for starters, the good President can consider changing speechwriters. It makes a lot of difference.

Belinda A. Aquino teaches Political Science and Asian Studies and directs Philippine Studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Building blocks of good citizenship

IN RECENT history, we have engaged in two bloodless revolutions. Yet nothing seems to have changed because we have just changed our leaders and have not really changed ourselves. We keep blaming our political leaders for the mess we are in. We keep demanding good governance from them but have not demanded anything from ourselves. There seems to be a missing piece in the puzzle. If we demand good governance from those in public office, there must be a counterpart from our end, and this is good citizenship.

And how do we become good citizens? By living according to good citizenship values which we can derive from the preamble of the Constitution: faith in God, unity, patriotism, work, respect for life, respect for law and government, truth, justice, freedom, love, equality, peace, promotion of the common good, concern for family and future generations, concern for the environment and order.

These are the values that will make us good citizens if we live by them. They must be translated into concrete action in all aspects of our lives at all times. If we do this, then all our actions, no matter how humble, will build our nation in much the same way that the simple act of a humble mason of putting one stone on top of another builds a cathedral. And the realization that all our actions based on these values, no matter how small, are building our nation, will give us that sense of nationhood that has heretofore eluded us.

There is nothing new in these good citizenship values. We do not need to learn them. We know them. What is lacking is the will to live by them. How then shall we move from knowing them to living them? We just have to take a look at the mess we are in and we will realize that it is the absence of these values in the way we live that has brought it about.

And then we should ask ourselves: Is this the world I want to live in? Shall I be part of the problem or part of the solution? We just have to decide. There will be a price to pay. But living these values will also have their own reward as all good works will bear good fruit, maybe not in the short term, but in the long term.

If we are to build a better nation, it is not enough to press for good governance, we have to demand of ourselves, each one of us, young and old, rich and poor, Muslim, Christian or Protestant, good citizenship that is value-based and value-driven.

There is still hope for our country. Let us forget the politicians. We can transform this country from below. If we cannot find heroes among our leaders, let us find them among the ordinary people—those who will build our nation by the truly heroic act of being good citizens day by day all the days of their lives.

—TERESITA D. BALTAZAR,
member, executive committee,
Konsyensyang Pilipino, 265-C
Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights,
Quezon City

Noisy and personal demonstration

ON AUG. 23 I received special visitors who noisily announced their arrival to the entire UP Diliman community with drums and the honking of horns. They were supporters of MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando. The Bayani supporters wasted no time. Their rally immediately started with a series of angry pro-Bayani speeches denouncing me with such words as "*demonyo, anarkista, terorista* and *komunista*." I recall those Erap impeachment days when the former President's supporters also used similar words. I wonder whether this crowd and that of Erap's were one and the same. I wouldn't really know except for the vehicles carrying government (red) plates; the Marikina police wearing their green uniforms and the two Marikina buses which were allowed to enter UP without any trouble.

I stayed inside the parish compound for a while quietly listening and absorbing the crowd's message. A group of farmers from the Task Force Mapalad were with me. They also sat and shared the moment with me in silence. After a while, I decided that it would be better to face the angry crowd, yet continue my silence. I stood and ran toward the gate and out in front of Bayani's friends. The speeches and jeering became even more vitriolic. The crowd, upon seeing me, immediately pressed toward me. The Task Force Mapalad farmers and the parish maintenance men meanwhile had already formed a protective flank behind me. Speaker after speaker took turns extolling Bayani's virtues and denouncing what they considered my support of lawlessness on the streets. While speakers belted out insults amid noisy drums and a crowd incessantly chanting "Bayani, Bayani, Bayani!" my only response was a silent, searching glance at a crowd possessed by their leader. At one point one speaker even asked the crowd to extend their hands toward me. Their faces aglow with glee, the triumphant crowd repeated after the speaker, "*Palayasin ninyo ang masamang espiritung na kay* Father Robert..." While the speaker-turned-exorcist tried to put on a somber attitude, the people failed to erase the smiles even while they closed their eyes. The exorcism was immediately followed by the usual ruckus. I was beginning to tire. One can only take so much heckling and ridicule. Yet I decided against speaking out even when one speaker announced that it is probably time to let me speak.

The speeches, the cheering, the endless drumming, the posters and streamers all revolved around a single theme: Father Robert, respect authority, respect the law, respect Bayani, respect GMA. I had spoken against Bayani's "Hitlerian" ways. I had also spoken against GMA's "Marcosian" tendencies. That crowd of GMA and Bayani stalwarts had their turn to tell not only me but all within earshot, "Respect the law, respect us, or else!" I too spoke amid the deafening declaration of allegiance to Bayani and GMA. My words were few. I spoke them to myself. To that crowd, to Bayani and to GMA, my silence was speech. My silence was dissent: "No to your questionable and abusive ways and deeds Bayani and GMA. To God, to country, to my people, to the poor, the little, the voiceless, yes... yes... yes!"

—FR. ROBERT P. REYES,
UP Diliman, Quezon City

What about the killing of Marohombsar?

VOICES ON INQ7.NET

HAVING visited grief and anguish on countless victims, not to mention the fear he had aroused among countless folks everywhere he swaggered into, Marohombsar finally met a fitting end, at the receiving end of a gun he had lived by.

Never mind the whinings of his relatives who, if we were to believe them, was a good man. A good man? I've never heard such bull before. Even "Syerrap" does not pretend that he is a good man although he is several degrees removed from the bandit's class.

Listen to this: a female relative claimed that Marohombsar was already about to surrender; he was just waiting for the reward money for his surrender. Imagine, he had the gall to ask that he be rewarded for surrendering, because he would use the money for his family's financial security as well as to post bail once he was arrested!

In effect, the government would reward him for committing criminal acts and then surrendering, then use the reward money so that he could stay out of jail.

It's either this fellow was so demented to think that anyone would fall for this insane story or somebody in the government is such an imbecile to think that someone would actually go along with such foolishness.—**Rolly S**

* * *

The police who are responsible for the neutralization of Marohombsar deserve to be commended and media should be given medals/rewards in public too. This will motivate other law officers to do their jobs as quickly as possible.—**hilongtalilong**

* * *

The Gold Cross Medal and the Wounded Personnel Medal was awarded to T/Sgt Madayag of the 35th SF Company. He belongs to the Philippine Army as this was a joint PNP/AFP operation.

I'm glad that his face was blurred on TV to protect his identity. Special operations forces should remain anonymous. Award or reward them as appropriate but anonymity is also for their own protection. After all, discretion is the better part of valor.—**mikelogics**

* * *

A dead Marohombsar is better than if he were alive. Whether his death was a rubout or a shootout, I don't care. His death is good for the Macapagal administration; good for the people who are afraid of being kidnapped; good for other bandits (less competition); and lastly, good for the police and military for if he were captured alive, he could wreak havoc by naming police and military officials who were involved in his criminal career.—**Predator**

* * *

Somebody is happy. Those who let him escape and his partners in crime could breathe a sigh of relief. They are off the hook, for now.—**ulong pare**

* * *

Members of the Pentagon gang should now watch their back. If I were them, I should strike first at their partners in crime (in the police or the military) or end up like their downed compadre. Talk now or else...sweet dreams. —**hilongtalilong**

* * *

Want a tip on how to tell the difference between a shootout and a rubout?

In rubouts, the operating troops don't get themselves wounded, as in the case of T/Sgt Madayag.—**mikelogics**

* * *

Just the same ML , UP is talking about the people who let him out! You don't believe that the guy can do a Houdini from a supposedly tight high-security camp all by himself, do you? What UP is saying is that there was no intention of getting this fellow back alive!—**piping dilat**

* * *

Good for him that he is dead. That was going to be his ultimate destination anyway. That was also a victory for those families that suffered in his bloody hands.—**balatsibuyas**

* * *

Marohombsar's death provided us one sure thing: the end of a criminal career. Unfortunately, he took with him to his grave the names of the PNP officials he planned to identify to GMA. While his death was a serious blow to the Pentagon gang he once led, it was a very big boost to the gang's PNP operators inside Camp Crame.

In the final analysis, we lost more with his death than having him captured alive. With his death, the "Men In Blue" leaders of the gang remain unidentified and they will probably continue running the big-time kidnap for ransom industry.

Let us not forget that although Marohombsar was a big fish in the KFR "business," the real captains of the "KFR industry" are still very much in our midst.

For this reason, it is premature for Malacañang to trumpet victory in its campaign against criminality. It is nonsensical for Marohombsar's lawyer to insinuate a rubout. It is petty for his relatives to claim he was killed to simplify the end of his banditry. There is no reason to rejoice with his death, until the "KFR industry" itself is dead.—**nodale**

* * *

Cut in Faisal's neck? Looks like a *coup de grâce* to make sure he is really dead, unlike Sabaya (who may not be dead).—**baroque**

* * *

Why are they using the people's money and wasting time debating about Marohombsar's death? Rubout or shootout, there is no difference. The Philippines must be rid of all those bloodthirsty criminals.—**frank-us**

Why congratulate the judges only?

WHILE I do not begrudge the President's congratulating the two Pasay City judges for sending three kidnappers to death row and sentencing an Indonesian terrorist to prison (PDI, 8/2/02), I cannot help but wonder why the policemen who cracked the cases and gathered the evidence and the prosecutors who toiled to battle it out in court have been forgotten.

The judges, the prosecutors and the policemen are all part of the criminal justice system. But to single out one pillar as if all the credit should belong to it is most unfair to the other pillars. It may boost the morale of one but will discourage the others. Why was it necessary for the Presdent to personally congratulate these judges when all they did was their sworn duties to decide cases based on the evidence gathered by the police and competently prosecuted by the Pasay City prosecutors?

—MARIO AR. A. ATIENZA,
114-B Evangelista St.,
Batangas City

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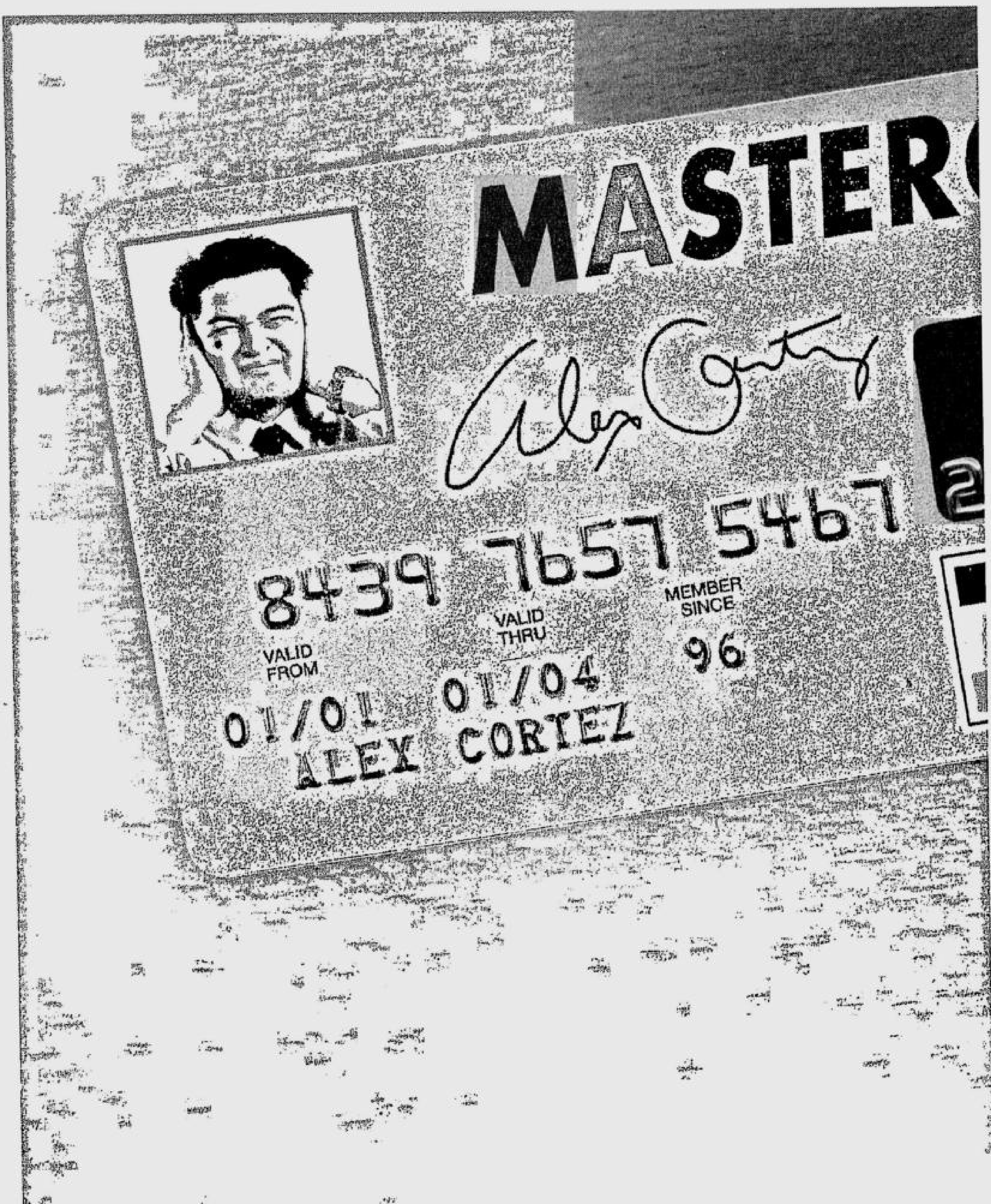

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

From Beijing to Berlin, world bucks US war plan

LONDON—No sooner had Donald Rumsfeld declared that the international community would back an eventual US attack on Iraq than the world begged to differ.

"When our country does make the right judgments, the right decisions, then other countries do cooperate and participate," the US defense secretary said in California on Tuesday.

Speaking a day after US Vice President Dick Cheney had contended that the risk of inaction on Iraq was "far greater" than the risk of action, Rumsfeld said President George W. Bush had not yet chosen to launch an invasion, but predicted that any such decision would elicit broad international backing.

No way, chorused politicians from Beijing to Berlin.

"Whether Saddam Hussein remains or is removed from power is up to the Iraqi people," said Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal, whose country was the main launchpad for the US-led forces that ended Iraq's occupation of Kuwait in 1991.

"It has never been shown in history . . . that anybody removed from the outside and another person put in instead has made for the stability of the region," he told the BBC.

"What makes us so gullible as to think we know what is better for the Iraqi people than the Iraqi people themselves?"

Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said his country, a Nato member whose facilities Washington would certainly covet in the event of war, had left the Americans in no doubt about its misgivings about any US-led campaign to topple Saddam.

"We have used every opportunity to tell our friends in the US administration we are opposed to military action against Iraq," Ecevit told a news conference.

Turkey shares a border with Iraq and has allowed US warplanes to use its airbases to patrol a "no-fly" zone over northern Iraq in place since the end of the 1991 Gulf War.

In Europe, dissenting voices rose in Germany and Britain, traditionally among America's staunchest Nato allies.

Germany's conservative opposition unexpectedly reversed course and issued a warning to the United States against launching a military strike on Iraq without a UN mandate.

Edmund Stoiber, conservative candidate for chancellor in the September 22 election, made the about-face on Wednesday when he endorsed anti-war warnings from Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

Stoiber said Cheney's remarks about a pre-emptive strike against Iraq prompted him to issue his warning against unilateral US moves. "The monopoly on the decision and action in this question lies with the United Nations," Stoiber said.

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, a leader of the pacifist Greens party, called Cheney's suggestions "highly risky and wrong." British Prime Minister Tony Blair is facing a major revolt within his ruling Labor Party over his support for Bush's threats of action against Iraq, according to a new opinion poll.

The ICM poll published in Wednesday's Guardian newspaper showed that 52 percent of Labor supporters believed Britain did not support any military action against Iraq, which Bush has lumped into an "axis of evil" with Iran and North Korea.

China, a permanent UN Security Council member, said Iraq should implement UN resolutions, but force was not the answer.

"Using force or threats of force is unhelpful in solving the Iraq issue and will increase regional instability and tensions," Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan Tang was quoted as saying in a meeting with his Iraqi counterpart Naji Sabri in Beijing.

In Tokyo, visiting US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage said Washington was confident it could convince skeptical allies to back military action against Iraq.

But Kyodo news agency quoted Taku Yamasaki, secretary-general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, as saying Tokyo had a duty as an ally to oppose Washington.

"If the US attacks alone, it will produce distrust of the United States throughout the world. As an ally, we should oppose this," Yamasaki was quoted as saying.

India, a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement, said its opposition to a war on Iraq had not wavered. "There is a consistency in our policy, and it is not going to change in the next few days or weeks," a foreign ministry official said.

In the Middle East, US foes, or nations branded by Washington as sponsors of international terrorism, denounced American threats against Iraq in predictably harsher terms. *Reuters*

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Don't expect big handouts, Asia told at Earth Summit

JOHANNESBURG—Asian countries seeking to meet ambitious targets on growth and the environment will have to shoulder much of the funding burden themselves, a top aid official warned Thursday.

The region must learn to stand on its own feet and not expect a massive influx of official development aid (Oda) to fulfill long-term needs, said Warren Evans, director for regional and sustainable development for the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Rich countries at the 10-day Earth Summit, which opened here Monday focusing on sustainable development, are under pressure to set a deadline to beef up Oda contributions to 0.7 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) annually.

"There is a long wish list here from developing countries and many are expecting donor aid to pay for it but the way the global economy is going, that is not going to happen," Evans said on the sidelines of the summit here.

"Donor money is not going to be enough and at the end of the day, it's the national and local governments that will have to generate most of the funds."

This is the toughest challenge facing Asia, as its recovery from the 1997-98 financial crisis that crippled the region and shattered a decade-long boom remains shaky amid the global economic uncertainty.

But Evans said inefficiencies due to poor distribution of government subsidies and development programmes could be ironed out to provide a key source of funds to help tame the monsters of sprawling urbanization, deforestation and reckless industrial expansion.

For example, two-tier pricing for water could be implemented to ensure that the poor—one in three people in the world's most populated continent—benefit from government subsidy and that the rich pay their fair share.

Governments also need to clean up their act and battle corruption in their administration to generate private sector investment and improve management of their resources, he said.

"It is a tall order because governments must be prepared to take tough development policy reforms on governance, pricing of resources and on a wide range of issues to tackle financing needs," he added.

"They must be prepared to invest in sustainable development because the environmental cost will be phenomenal in future if they do not and the sad thing will be, that this is all avoidable."

Analysts said many governments lack the will to enforce programs, and financial constraints have forced them to put environmental issues on the backburner as they battle new problems such as the haze hazard in Southeast Asia and India.

Priority has also switched to ensuring national security after the September 11 attacks in the United States, they say.

The Manila-based ADB gives some $6 billion in loans, and between $150 million and $250 million in technical assistance annually for development projects in the region, with China top on the list of borrowers. *AFP*

Nokor top peddler of missile tech, says US official

SEOUL—The top US arms negotiator branded North Korea as the world's foremost peddler of ballistic missile technology on Thursday and said the communist state needed drastic reforms to survive.

In a major policy speech, US Undersecretary of State John Bolton said President George W. Bush's description of North Korea as part of an "axis of evil" with Iraq and Iran was factually correct rather than a mere rhetorical flourish.

Bolton, who is US Secretary of State Colin Powell's senior adviser on arms control and international security, gave a detailed account of what he said was North Korea's active programme to develop weapons of mass destruction—chemical, biological and nuclear arms.

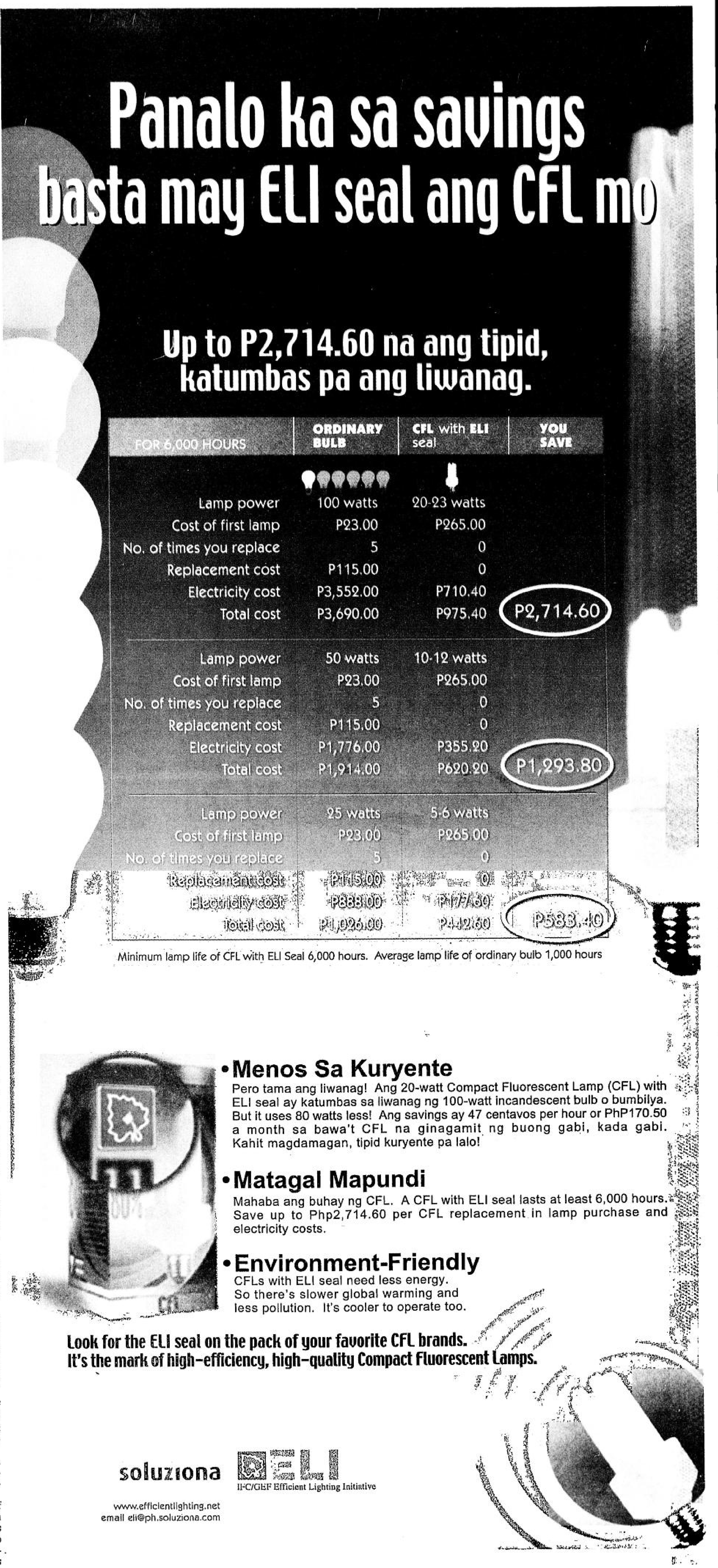
"The brave forces of our two countries (the United States and South Korea) stand ready to defend against an evil regime that is armed to the teeth, including with weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missiles," he said.

"It is a regime that has just a few miles from Seoul the most massive concentration of tubed artillery and rocketry on earth." Bolton sharply criticised North Korea's leadership under Kim Jong-il but nonetheless underscored Washington's readiness to start talks with North Korea and said there were some hopeful signs of potential change.

"In addition to its disturbing weapons of mass destruction activities, North Korea also is the world's foremost peddler of ballistic missile-related equipment, components, materials and technical expertise," he said.

Bush first used the phrase "axis of evil" in January to describe Iran, Iraq and North Korea, which he said ran programmes to develop weapons of mass destruction.

"President Bush's use of the term 'axis of evil' to describe Iran, Iraq and North Korea was more than a rhetorical flourish—it was factually correct," Bolton said in his speech to members of the Korean-American Association. *Reuters*



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Al-Qaida gets millions in fresh money, says paper

WASHINGTON—The global campaign to separate al-Qaida from its money has stalled, giving Osama bin Laden's network access to a fresh infusion of tens of millions of dollars, The Washington Post reported on Thursday, citing a UN report.

The 43-page draft report said al-Qaida continues to draw on funds from Bin Laden's personal inheritance, as well as from investments and money diverted or embezzled from charitable organizations, the newspaper reported.

The document, written by a UN Monitoring Group on al-Qaida, was quoted as saying the group's financial backers in North Africa, the Middle East and Asia manage at least $30 million in investments, with some estimates going as high as $300 million.

According to the newspaper, the draft said al-Qaida was also suspected of having bank accounts under the names of unidentified intermediaries in Dubai, Hong Kong, London, Malaysia and Vienna and that private donations to the group are believed to continue, "largely unabated."

"Al-Qaida is by all accounts 'fit and well' and poised to strike again at its leisure," the draft report says, according to the Post.

In the months immediately after the Sept. 11 attacks, the United States and other UN members froze more than $112 million in assets belonging to suspected al-Qaida members and supporters. But in the past eight months, only $10 million had been frozen, the paper said, citing the UN report.

The newspaper said the UN panel lists a number of factors that it says has hampered the effort to shut down al-Qaida's financial network, including the group's decision to shift its assets into precious metals and gems, lax border controls in several European countries and the failure of the United States and other governments to provide complete information about the suspected al-Qaida members. *Reuters*

Babbling babies hard at work, researcher says

WASHINGTON—It may sound like meaningless nonsense to adults, but the babbling of babies actually is an essential verbal exercise that helps the very young prepare for a lifetime of speech and language.

When a baby is babbling, it "is hard at work figuring out the sound system of their language and how those sounds are put together," said Laura-Ann Petitto, a researcher at Dartmouth College and senior author of a study appearing Friday in the journal Science. "The baby is actually building an understanding of the sounds of their language."

Petitto said her new study, using 10 babies between the ages of 5 months and 12 months, shows that the distinctive sounds of an infant's babbling are prompted by signals from one part of the brain while other sounds or mouth motions are directed by other parts of the brain.

"This suggests that language functions specialize in the brain at a very early age," she said.

In the study, Petitto, a professor in psychology and brain sciences, and co-author Siobhan Holowka analyzed the mouth motion of infants as they babbled, made other vocal sounds and as they smiled.

The infants, five from an English-speaking family and five from a French-speaking family, were filmed as they made sounds. The film was then slowed down to enable the researchers to closely analyze each mouth motion.

They found that when the babies were babbling, the motion was more emphatic on the right side of the mouth. For smiling, the left side of the mouth was opened more. For random vocalizations, the mouth was symmetrical, with both sides activated equally.

This difference in motion, said Petitto, directly reflects the parts of the brain being used in each activity of the mouth.

If the baby is producing vocal babbling, then the right side of the mouth has a greater opening and it is pulled down a little more, Petitto said. "However, if the baby is smiling, the left side of the mouth is going to have a slightly greater opening and you also get a contraction around the left eye."

When the baby is producing sounds with no babbling content, "then the mouth is full, wide open," she said.

Petitto said that since the left side of the brain controls the right side of the mouth, then the findings suggest that the left side of the brain is sending the babbling signals.

"The left hemisphere of the brain is dedicated to language learning," she said, noting that the study shows "it comes on much earlier than we thought."

Smiling is prompted by the right side of the brain, the seat of emotions, she said.

"Our study shows that as early as five months old, there is participation of the emotional centers in the brain," the researcher said.

Experts, said Petitto, long ago identified specific characteristics of the sounds infants make and can identify the difference between a babble and some nonspecific sound. *AP*

Workers protest abolition of gov't . . .

From page A1

director general of the Philippine Information Agency, was APO's former president.

With the NPO out of the way in the 2004 elections, ballots and other election forms will be printed by private firms, including APO, the NPO workers suspect.

"*Kuryente yan* (That's a bum steer)," said Ang stoutly denying the NPO employees' allegations. He suspected that the political opposition was behind it.

"It is nothing but a political gimmick coming from the political opposition, which is reflective of the kind of politics they practice," said Ang who's now the publisher of the Manila Times.

He said he was not involved in the operations of the NPO. Nor was he aware of the future plans by the government printing company, an attached agency under the Office of the Press Secretary.

"I have absolutely nothing to do with any plans concerning the National Printing Office," Ang said in a phone interview. "I know absolutely nothing."

Cost-cutting

In fact, the NPO and 13 other agencies had been lined up for abolition and were not allotted funds in the 2003 budget appropriation, according to Rep. Rolando Andaya, chair of the House appropriations committee.

This was confirmed by Department of Budget and Management Secretary Emilia Boncodin. She said Malacañang had endorsed to Congress the abolition of the 14 agencies to generate P1.6 billion in savings for the government.

Adarlo questioned the inclusion of the NPO in the list of agencies to be abolished since the agency had never been a financial burden and has been remitting an average of P100 million to the treasury annually.

"The NPO is the only income-generating bureau under the Office of the Press Secretary," Adarlo said.

The NPO is one of only two government printing offices, the other being the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas which prints currency notes, passports and seamen's books.

To abolish the NPO after the government had invested P300 million for its land and building and P127 million for the acquisition of modern printing equipment in the past three years would be an "unwise business decision," Adarlo said.

Protest rally

"Abolishing the NPO will unnecessarily put the electoral process in chaos and may predictably create controversies considering that the 2002 national elections are forthcoming," said Adarlo who led a rally by all of the NPO's 616 employees yesterday.

Aside from election ballots and other related materials, the NPO is also responsible for printing government receipts and the Official Gazette.

Adarlo said the abolition of the NPO clearly was connected to the 2004 elections.

"Without the NPO, who will print the ballots and who will control the printing? Expect widespread cheating to take place," he warned.

Adarlo said that to date, there had been no reports of any irregularities involving the printing of official ballots by the NPO.

Encroaching

Adarlo said APO "for the longest time" had been encroaching on NPO's functions.

But since 1990, APO had stopped remitting its income to the national treasury and has operated as a private printing press although its board of directors and officers are all government appointees. APO reportedly has P700 million in unpaid loans.

The APO Printing Unit's control and supervision was transferred to the Office of the Press Secretary shortly before the fall of President Joseph Estrada in 2001. Estrada's Memorandum Order No. 38 placed APO on "equal footing" with the NPO but the former's employees and officials continue to receive private-standard salaries.

With Abalos...

"The proposed abolition of the NPO would be definitely in bad faith if its main intention is to favor the private sector specifically a dying private firm," he said.

An NPO employee, who asked not to be identified, was more blunt. "With Abalos at the Comelec and Dante Ang in control of the printing of ballots, their stay in Malacañang until 2010 is already ensured," he said.

He said there was a rush to abolish the NPO because it has to be done within a year before the elections in accordance with the law.

Ferdinand Gaite, president of the Confederation for the Organization, Unity and Recognition of Government Employees (Courage), said no private printing press could replace the NPO in terms of capability and security.

"The issues here are security and accountability. These are the things that we cannot expect of private printers," Gaite said.

"Losing control over government accountable and standard forms will undeniably give way to rampant proliferation of fake accountable forms," he said.

Gaite said there was also no logic in abolishing an agency that earns income for the government. By abolishing the NPO, the government will not only be paying more for private printing but also stand to loose income generated by printing jobs from government agencies.

He said some quarters merely wanted to corner government printing contracts and ensure Ms Macapagal's election victory at the same time.

Doing an Erap

Gaite said by signing executive orders abolishing the NPO and 14 agencies, Ms Macapagal would be "doing an Erap," referring to the abolition of the Economic Intelligence and Investigation Bureau (EIIB) in 2000 after its operations stepped on the toes of some Estrada relatives and businessmen-friends. ***With a report from Carlito Pablo***

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Friday, August 30, 2002
21st Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **1 Cor 1:17-25**
Gospel: **Mt 25:1-13**

Jesus said to his disciples, "This story throws light on what will happen in the kingdom of heaven. Ten bridesmaids went out with their lamps to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were careless while the others were sensible.

"The careless bridesmaids took their lamps as they were and did not bring extra oil. But those who were sensible, brought with their lamps flasks of oil. As the bridegroom delayed, they all grew drowsy and fell asleep.

"But at midnight, a cry rang out: 'The bridegroom is here, come out and meet him!' All the maidens woke up at once and trimmed their lamps. Then the careless ones said to the sensible ones: 'Give us some oil, for our lamps are going out.' The sensible ones answered: 'There may not be enough for both you and us. You had better go to those who sell and buy for yourselves.'

"They were out buying oil when the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him to the wedding feast, and the doors were shut.

"Later the rest of the bridesmaids arrived and called out: 'Lord, Lord, open to us.' But he answered: 'Truly, I do not know you.'

"So, stay awake, for you do not know the day nor the hour."

Commentary

In oriental tradition and practice, mindfulness is one of the principal traits of a wise wo/man. In fact, it is the key for personal growth in wisdom. God's reign has already come in the mystery of Jesus the Christ. We have become partakers of that saving mystery through our baptismal consecration. A new reality has been inaugurated in our lives. But have we lived out of that reality? Sadly we need to accept that most of the time we have not been mindful that the Bridegroom is already here, inviting us to be in communion with him all the moments of our lives.

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Gov't to take over Naia 3

From page A1

partners in Piatco learned that the Germans were negotiating in earnest with Climaco "only late last week."

He added: "Actually, we only learned about it through the Internet."

At the hearing, Climaco, former chair of accounting giant SGV and now presidential adviser for strategic projects, told senators the arrangement was based on proposals made by Fraport after the German state firm had a falling out with its local partners. Fraport chair Roland Hoch is also president of the German state of Hesse.

"We see merit in it (the Fraport offer)," Climaco said, adding that Fraport officials will be in Manila next week to finalize the deal.

The arrangement calls for Fraport to consider the $400 million it had already invested in the project as a 15-year-loan to the government, which will be paid completely out of the new terminal's operating income.

"No budgetary support, no cash out," blue ribbon committee chair Sen. Joker Arroyo described the arrangement.

Legal questions

But the final agreement is certain to meet legal opposition from Cheng Yong and his partners, the Filipinos who own 60 percent of Piatco. Fraport owns 30 percent, while a Japanese company owns the remaining 10 percent.

"Expect the Filipino group to go up against this plan, because it would be prejudicial to them," Tolentino said.

"We are taking the position that, first, Fraport cannot deal with the government on its own, because it has only a minority stake. Two, it is improper for government to be dealing with a minority stockholder. And three, we are looking at a possible angle that there could be graft (here)," he said.

At the hearing, Arroyo already noted the possibility of a legal tussle. "While there is already some kind of understanding (between the government and Fraport), there is still the remaining kink about the Cheng group," he said.

In a phone interview, Arroyo said the government's position was that the Germans were the "dominant funders," having invested some 80 percent of the project cost.

"That's correct. That's their position. The government is dealing now with the dominant owners."

But Delos Angeles did not mince words. "If that is Fraport's offer, it will only bind Fraport because it does not have the authority to bind Piatco itself."

"Piatco will continue with the contract except that it would have to find a new partner," he said. The company was "now holding talks with another German contractor" to replace Fraport, he added.

Delos Angeles also said the Philippine government could end up on the losing end should it accept the Fraport offer.

"Why pay $400 million when, at the end of the BOT agreement, it would receive Naia 3 for only P1?" he said.

"Essentially this is a (build-operate-transfer) project and is an initiative of the private sector because the government is in need of funds. There is also need for expertise to run an airport," Delos Angeles said.

Proposed terms

Under the proposed amicable settlement, Piatco will surrender Naia 3 to the government and the franchise awarded to it pursuant under the BOT law.

The government would, in turn, "pay $400 million as full settlement of all obligations to Piatco."

The German firm agreed to treat the $400 million as a loan to the government, with "a minimum repayment period of 15 years, minimum of three to five years grace period before any payment shall be due and indicative fixed rate for interest at 6.2-6.8 percent."

Under the agreement, Fraport would operate and maintain Naia 3, "subject to Philippine nationality requirements." Arroyo told the INQUIRER that he understood this to mean that technical considerations temporarily required German expertise. "On the technical side, the Germans would still operate" the terminal, he said.

Under the terms that Arroyo described as "rather liberal," the government committed itself to work with Fraport "to obtain the agreement of all its fellow shareholders to the amicable settlement."

The proposed terms were contained in an Aug. 10 letter of Climaco to Fraport officials Peter Henkle and Jorg Seyffart.

"The terms above may be considered by the government, provided that in our discussions, it would clearly appear that the project is no longer viable nor feasible for all parties concerned," Climaco wrote.

The agreement was virtually sealed after Hesse president Hoch wrote President Macapagal-Arroyo on Aug. 23, informing her of the "amicable solution that the Philippines and Fraport's negotiating team and advisers have reached."

Hoch hailed the agreement and told the President that "we have reached a common ground and amicable solution after a long process of negotiation."

"I will assure you that I will do my best to see this through and trust you and your government will do likewise," Hoch told Ms Macapagal.

Fourth hearing

Yesterday's hearing was the third on the Piatco issue. Arroyo told the INQUIRER a fourth would be called, "in fairness to the Chengs."

"One more hearing ... and then the record will be complete," he said.

But a legislator familiar with the issue said the testimony of the Chengs might well be "superfluous," because the government was close to a deal.

Arroyo paid special emphasis on the diplomatic aspect of the controversy. "The relationship between the State of Hesse and the Philippines remains very cordial" despite the Piatco dispute, he said. "No relationships have been disturbed."

"That is the important thing, because our relations remain good with Hesse," he added.

Arroyo said it was his impression that Malacanang was closely involved in the negotiations because Climaco had testified that she conferred with the executive department "every inch of the way."

"On the face of it, this looks very encouraging," Arroyo said. "When we take over, all the onerous provisions will be eliminated."

However, he added: "The question is, will the government run it properly?"

Warning

In Congress, Rep. Jacinto Paras of Negros Oriental warned the administration against taking over Naia 3, "because this would be clearly inimical to the public interest."

"If the government takes over the project," Paras said in a press statement, "it would be going against its policy of privatization which it has announced as the cornerstone of its economic program. It would give the wrong signal to the domestic and foreign business communities that this administration could not be trusted to stick to its words and to respect legal contracts. More economic instability will follow."

Paras also expressed "strong suspicion" that Climaco, whom he called a "private financial packager," wanted to "derail the project, even to the detriment of the Filipino people, on behalf of her secret partners." He said he would call for another House probe—the fourth—into the project.

In spite of Climaco's dramatic announcement, however, Tolentino said the scheduled launch of Naia 3 in November will push through.

"This will not affect the schedule," he said.

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Marohombsar set to give up, says wife

COTABATO CITY—Suspected Pentagon gang leader Faizal Marohombsar was preparing to meet President Macapagal-Arroyo on Aug. 26 to formally surrender, but police officers itching for promotion ordered him killed.

This was what Anorah Marohombsar, wife of the slain kidnap leader, claimed in reaction to police statements that her husband was killed in a legitimate encounter in Magallanes, Cavite on Sunday.

"He was murdered purposely to let police officials get promotions," Anorah told the INQUIRER.

In Surigao City, however, Presidential Assistant for Mindanao Jesus Dureza ruled out allegations that Marohombsar was killed in a rubout.

"There is no single evidence to show that it was a rub out. It was clearly an encounter," Dureza pointed out.

Anorah said her husband reached her by telephone the day before he was killed by members of the Presidential Anti-Crime and Emergency Response (Pacer).

"He told me to watch him on TV with the President because he will surrender," Anorah said. In an earlier interview with a local radio station, the widow vowed to "tell all."

She said she would appear on national television after the "*kanduli*" (prayer and offering) for her husband. "I will reveal everything Fai (Marohombsar's nickname) had told me in due time," she said.

In the radio interview, Anorah said several Malacañang officials had called her up on several occasions, inviting her to Manila "because, according to them, Faizal will surrender very soon."

"I did not come because a friend had told me that I will only be used by the government to pressure my husband to come out and surrender," she recalled.

Anorah said she suspected that Marohombsar had actually surrendered, but some police officials might have wanted him dead so they could be promoted.

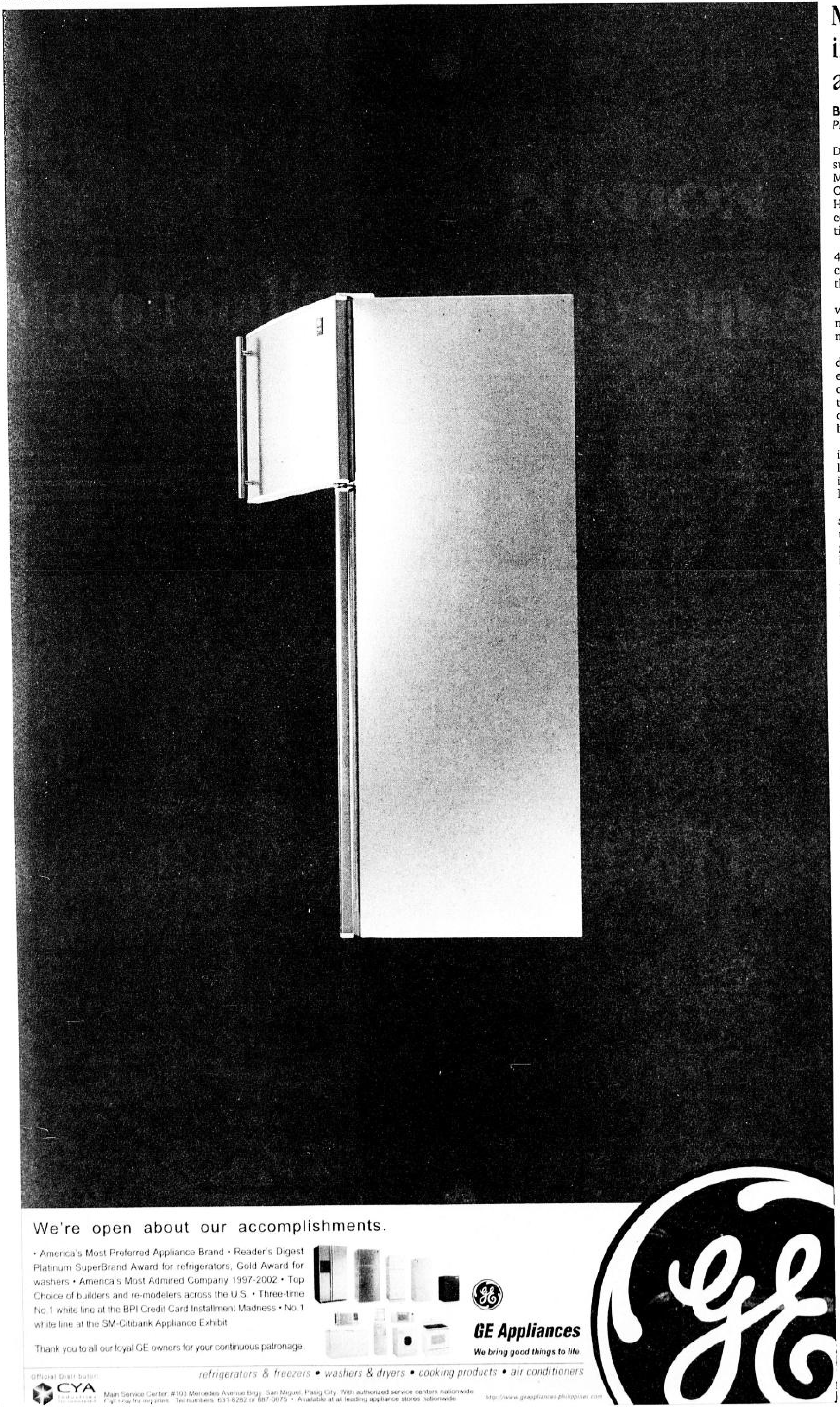
She said that killing her husband would be one way of preventing him from leaking information about police officials allegedly protecting the Pentagon kidnap group.

Director General Hermogenes Ebdane, Philippine National Police chief, had earlier said that at least four ranking police officers were linked to the Pentagon.

Dureza said the killing of Marohombsar was the proper way of dealing with criminals. "We do not treat a person who has a record of kidnapping cases, who was in jail and escaped, who was armed and shooting at authorities, like a baby," he said.

Cavite Rep. Gilbert Remulla also joined those who have doubted the government's account of Marohombsar's death. Remulla said that while Marohombsar might have shot it out with the rescue team, it was possible that the lawmen failed to use available means to ensure that the kidnap leader would be captured alive.

"(He) had said many times over that he was prepared to surrender. While he does not deserve any sympathy for turning to criminal activities, his death has robbed us of any chance to find out the truth about him and the Pentagon gang," the lawmaker said. *Edwin Fernandez and Ma. Kristina Cassion, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



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Mining activities in gold mountain allowed to resume

By Ayan Mellejor
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY—Mining activities are set to resume in the violence-prone gold-rush area of Mt. Diwata, also known as Mt. Diwalwal in Compostela Valley as Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez yesterday issued service contracts to 18 mining groups and cooperatives.

The contracts, in effect, allowed some 4,000 "subsistence" or small-scale miners to continue operations, less than a month after the government took over the site.

But only a few of the small-scale miners were jubilant despite the government's formal recognition of their activities as legitimate.

The contracts, which will take effect Saturday, will expire in six months or until the emergency situation in the Diwalwal mining operation is lifted by the DENR. Alvarez said the renewal of contracts would be subject to compliance with the terms and conditions set by his department.

The contracts cover mining operations in the tunnels in Balite, which are formerly owned by Diwalwal's "Big 3"—JB Mining Corp., Blucor Minerals Corp. and Helica.

Under the terms of the contract, the small-scale miners would not be allowed to use explosives and were also obliged "to guard and protect" their working area from intruders.

Alvarez said the miners should submit a monthly report on the volume and grade of their ore production to the Mines and Geosciences Bureau.

They should comply with existing rules and regulations on safety, health, sanitation and environmental provisions of the mining law, he said.

Among those issued service contracts were the groups represented by Rey Caumanday, Moran Takasan, Ramel Monsanto, Esmeraldo Longhas, Diosdado Rosente, Arsenio Chatto Sr., Paterno Piayo, Selverio Regudo, Jaime de la Cerna, Teresito Talip, Hermie Abelado, Pedro Francisco, Aurelio Pagara and Sergio Deloso.

The Retrievers Miners Development Cooperative, Kalayaan Mining and Development Cooperative, Golden Movers Development Cooperative and Monkayo Miners Development Cooperative were also granted contracts.

Horacio Ramos, MGB director, said the Mt. Diwata Ball Millers Association and Mini CIP Plant Operators Association would also be issued contracts.

Mineral processors would also get a similar approval, but they have to rehabilitate their equipment first, he said.

Ramos said danger areas or those that require structural support would remain off limits to miners.

2 female bodies found off Antique

By Nestor Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—The bodies of two unidentified women were separately recovered on Monday in the waters in northern Antique.

Supt. Ranier Idio, Antique provincial police director, said the decomposing bodies were fished out off Tibiao and Pandan towns.

Citing belated reports reaching his office in the capital town of San Jose, Idio said one of the women was aged 45 to 50 years old. Her body was recovered by policemen in Barangay Martinez, Tibiao, 60 kilometers north of San Jose.

Idio said the other woman was aged 50 to 60 years old. Her body was found by fishermen in Barangay Partia, Pandan, 103 km north of San Jose, with both legs and one arm missing.

The bodies were buried in the towns where they were recovered because nobody had claimed them.

NPA rebels burn heavy equipment

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Communist rebels burned pieces of heavy equipment owned by a construction company on Tuesday night in Sitio Tan-awan, Guadalupe, Carcar, some 40 kilometers south of this city.

The New People's Army (NPA) rebels arrived at the compound of Gorones Development Corp. at around 7 p.m., disarmed the security guards and set on fire a backhoe, payloader and a stone crusher.

They also pushed a water tanker down a nearby ravine, according to security guard Wilfredo Habagat.

Police and military troopers sent to pursue the band arrested a confessed rebel who claimed that the burning was meant to "punish" Gorones for failing to pay "revolutionary tax" to the NPA.

The suspect, identified as Larry Boy Montecillo, of Barangay Lawaan, Talisay City, was arrested inside a passenger bus late Tuesday night at a checkpoint in Minglanilla town, 21 km south of here.

His companions, including the alleged leader of the NPA group identified only as "Ka Aram," alighted from the bus in Naga town and escaped.

On Wednesday, Montecillo met local reporters and admitted to his participation in the raid. He said there were only five of them, including Ka Aram, who staged the attack, contrary to Carcar police reports that they were 15 to 20.

The suspect also claimed they were carrying only .45 cal. pistols and not high-powered firearms as the police reported.

He said they planned the raid on Aug. 15 after Gorones refused to pay "taxes" to the NPA.

Carcar Mayor Mario Patricio Barcenas said policemen manning a Regional Mobile Force detachment in Barangay Guadalupe failed to respond immediately to the NPA attack as they thought it was just a simple fire alarm.

The town's police chief Gaudencio Cagape said an intelligence report he had earlier received disclosed that the rebels were planning to raid the police station in Barili town in western Cebu.

Lt. Col. Jonas Sumagaysay, commander of the Army's 78th Infantry Battalion based in Cebu, said the burning incident was intended to lure military operations away from mid-north Cebu to the mid-south section of the island.

On Monday, a "chance" encounter erupted between government and NPA forces in the northern town of Catmon, resulting in the arrest of two suspected rebels, identified as Nestor Lumbab and Kevin Colinares Ares.

Ares was reportedly a tax collector of the rebels, while Lumbab was among the rebels who ambushed a Police Regional Mobile Group unit in Pansoy, Sogod, also in northern Cebu, on Aug. 15.

Suspect in Balweg slay held

SAN FERNANDO CITY—Policemen and military agents on Wednesday arrested a suspected New People's Army leader implicated in the December 1999 murder of former rebel priest Conrado Balweg.

Police reports identified the suspect as Clarence Sibayan Austin, 39, a leader of a farmers' group in Ilocos Norte and listed as No. 1 in the police's order of battle.

Senior Supt. Paterno Bangui, La Union police director, said Austin was arrested in Sudipen, La Union, on the strength of a warrant issued by Judge Arturo Buenavista of the regional trial court in Bangued, Abra.

Reports said Austin was among the 13 church and non-government organization workers charged with Balweg's murder. The suspects, some of them have already been acquitted and others out on bail, are collectively known as the "Abra 13."

Balweg was gunned down in his family's ancestral house in Malibcong, Abra on Dec. 31, 1999. The NPA owned responsibility for the murder, citing Balweg's "blood debts." *Gia Damaso-Dumo and Desiree Caluza*

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GDP grew 4.5% in Q2; investors skeptical

From page A1

growing at a rate that exceeded even (the government's) projection," Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Dante Canlas told reporters.

"The broad-based nature of the expansion is encouraging. Although agriculture slowed down in the second quarter, industry recovered strongly. Services continued to gain strength," Canlas added.

David Cohen, chief macroeconomic forecaster of international credit rating agency SP/MMS, agreed with Canlas' assessment.

"That was indeed a pleasant surprise. The figures were somewhat stronger than what most people had been projecting," Cohen said.

He also agreed with Canlas that the economy was on track to meet the government's full-year projections of 4.0-4.5 percent for real GDP and 4.5-5.0 percent for real GNP (gross national product).

GNP also grew 5.2 percent in the second quarter, bringing to 4.7 percent the growth figure for the first half of the year.

GDP measures total output within the country, regardless of the nationality of the entity producing the goods and services. It is computed as the sum of income from the various economic sectors. GNP, on the other hand, includes overseas Filipino workers' remittances and other income from abroad.

Despite the positive news, the Philippine Stock Exchange composite index closed 0.3 percent lower at 1,105.96 points. But the peso bucked a weaker trend for regional currencies, rising to a 10-day high of 51.74 to the dollar after the data was announced.

"They don't believe in the GDP numbers," remarked Joseph Roxas, president of Eagle Equities, referring to stock market investors.

"Before, when the GDP was rising, everybody felt it. Now, it's just the consumer companies."

Investors have voiced concern about the budget deficit that hit P133 billion in the seven months to July, exceeding the government's full-year P130-billion deficit ceiling.

Canlas stressed the good economic growth figures would enable the government to pursue efforts to reduce the budget deficit.

The encouraging output growth figures "raises the likelihood that the target deficit-to-GDP ratio of 3.3 percent in 2002 would be realized," Canlas said.

He added if full-year GDP growth exceeded 4 percent, then the deficit could still go "slightly over" the P130-billion ceiling without exceeding the 3.3 percent deficit-to-GDP target.

President Macapagal-Arroyo earlier warned that the country was vulnerable to contagion from the Latin American debt crisis unless it improved its fiscal position.

Canlas said the government had already been prudent in its expenditures and did not expect to slash spending sharply for the rest of the year.

He also expressed hope that new reforms in taxation would bring in more revenue in the remaining months of 2002.

Fueled by food manufacturing and electrical machinery, industrial output grew 4.3 percent year-on-year in the second quarter against 1.3 percent in the first, surpassing expectations and compensating for a slowdown in agricultural production.

Growth in the farm sector, which contributes about one-fifth to total output, slowed to 2.4 percent from 4.6 percent in the first quarter.

Services, accounting for about 40 to 45 percent of output, grew 5.5 percent from 5 percent.

"It's certainly pretty high," Jojo Gonzales, head of research at Philippine Equity Partners in Manila, said of the growth figures. "The major difference in performance is industry. That's the only sharp change."

Manufacturing, which accounts for a quarter of industrial output, grew by a robust 5 percent year-on-year in the second quarter against the government's best estimate of 3.5 percent.

On the demand side, Canlas noted that the slower decline in investments in the second quarter suggested the bottoming out of outflows.

The outlook for the rest of the year was clouded by concerns about an economic recovery in the United States, the Philippines' single biggest trading partner, and the expected recurrence of drought in the fourth quarter.

"We do not think (the economy can sustain this pace of growth)," said Song Seng Wun, an economist with GK Goh Securities in Singapore, adding that a local electronics manufacturers group had already lowered its export growth forecast for the year.

Canlas said expectations of a weak second half for the US economy was indeed a "downside risk" to the Philippines, but added the US economy was unlikely to go into recession.

He also said the increase in trade with the country's Southeast Asian neighbors, as well as China and South Korea, would help offset slow shipments to the United States.

"Asean trade is really growing fast . . . And if you look at the export figures, Asean as a group is now accounting for the biggest market of Philippine merchandise exports," Canlas said.

Jonathan Ravelas, chief market strategist of Banco de Oro Universal Bank, said he was confident that the country could post a quarterly growth of at least 4 percent for the rest of the year, especially in the third quarter.

In any case, the second-quarter figures put the Philippines well in the top rank of Asian economies. Only China, with an 8-percent growth, and South Korea, with 6.3 percent, have so far reported higher annual growth in the second quarter.

Indonesia and Malaysia registered a GDP growth of 3.5 percent and 3.9 percent in the second quarter. Thailand is expected to post a growth "close to" 3.9 percent in the first quarter. ***With reports from Reuters, AFP and AP***

2 RM awardees blast US . . .

From page A1

terday at the Ramon Magsaysay Center, Indian engineer and activist Sandeep Pandey said the United States had "no right" to launch attacks against countries suspected of supporting terrorist groups.

Pandey, the Magsaysay awardee for emergent leadership and at 37 the youngest of this year's crop, said the United States was actually the "biggest terrorist government" in the world. He said it had been carrying out unilateral attacks against smaller and less powerful states even without concrete proof of their supposed terrorist plots.

Pomnyun Snim, a South Korean awarded for peace and international understanding, said the United States should redirect its efforts toward more productive strategies.

"Instead of bombing the Afghan state, why don't they give humanitarian aid?" Snim said through an interpreter. "This is a loss for the US government because the future leadership should be based on morals, not on power."

The stringent comments of Pandey and Snim drew words of defense from Philippine Chief Justice Hilario Davide, awardee for government service, and American Stephen Heintz, president of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund (RBF).

"I realize that the money comes from the United States, but that should not prevent me from questioning the US government's policies," said Pandey. "The United States is itself responsible for a lot of the mess in the world."

He also said terrorism needed "to be condemned, whether it is an attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on Sept. 11 or . . . in the state of Kashmir."

Pandey said that while he "did not like" the Taliban government, he was not in favor of the US "unilateral" attacks on Afghanistan.

He said terrorism arose from the failure to properly address popular grievances.

"Political problems can only be solved by political means," Pandey said. "Dialogue, I think, is the only way."

The Ramon Magsaysay Award is considered the Asian equivalent of the Nobel Prize.

The RBF provides the $50,000 cash prize to the awardees except the one on emergent leadership, whose prize money in the same amount comes from the Ford Foundation.

Coming to the defense of the US-led international war on terrorism, Davide said all stakeholders and governments should work together not only to combat terrorism but also to find out its cause.

He said that "it is our duty to contribute a little" to make sure that the Sept. 11 attacks would not happen again anywhere in the world.

In response, Heintz thanked the Chief Justice, who was sitting next to him, "for standing with us in times of tragedy and vulnerability."

Heintz said the United States appreciated the Philippines and the rest of the world that supported the Americans.

He also said that while he respected the statements of the other panelists, the Sept. 11 attacks gave the United States an increased vulnerability and greater responsibility.

"We are laying the foundation of peace . . . and promoting greater understanding (among nations)," Heintz said. "We are interdependent and we share a global neighborhood."

Snim said, however, that anti-American sentiment was brewing in his country because the United States barred North Korea from selling arms to other countries but continued its own sales talks with South Korea.

The Ramon Magsaysay Awards started in 1957 with an endowment from the New York-based RBF. John D. Rockefeller had personally wanted to give a prize to commemorate the integrity and pragmatic idealism of the late President for whom the awards are named.

The other awardees for this year are Bharat Koirala of Nepal for journalism, literature and creative communication arts; German Ruth Pfau of Pakistan for public service; and Cynthia Maung of Burma for community leadership.

With a report from AP

The Rat Pack: Big J son arrested

From page A1

Michael Castro, Jao Santiago, Rodel Comendador and Virgilio Endaya. Four 9-mm Glock pistols and an M-16 (Armalite) rifle, all with valid documents, were found in their possession, police said.

Police officials said the suspects would not be given special treatment.

"We expect the police to do its job no matter who is involved. They won't be given special treatment. When it comes to law enforcement, there's no room for favors," said Senior Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, national police spokesperson.

In a radio interview, Sen. Robert Jaworski said he would not tolerate his son's action.

"Let justice take its rightful course," Jaworski said. He said he "would not interfere in the investigation being conducted by the San Juan police."

"If charges are to be filed, then let these be filed," Jaworski said.

Police sources said Jaworski's son and his friends were arrested between 10 and 11 p.m. on Florida Street in the Northeast Greenhills subdivision, following reports that they were responsible for an indiscriminate firing incident there.

Supt. Rodrigo Degracia said a security guard informed his police station that several bursts of gunfire had been heard coming from Florida Street. Members of patrol cars 425, 427 and 428 immediately proceeded to the area and spotted the young Jaworski and his friends on board a Ford Expedition and a Nissan Frontier pickup.

Degracia said the lawmen conducted an ocular inspection of the vehicles and found the firearms inside, prompting them to invite Jaworski and his friends to the police station. At the police station, Jaworski and his friends admitted firing their guns but stressed that they were only on a "rat hunting" expedition.

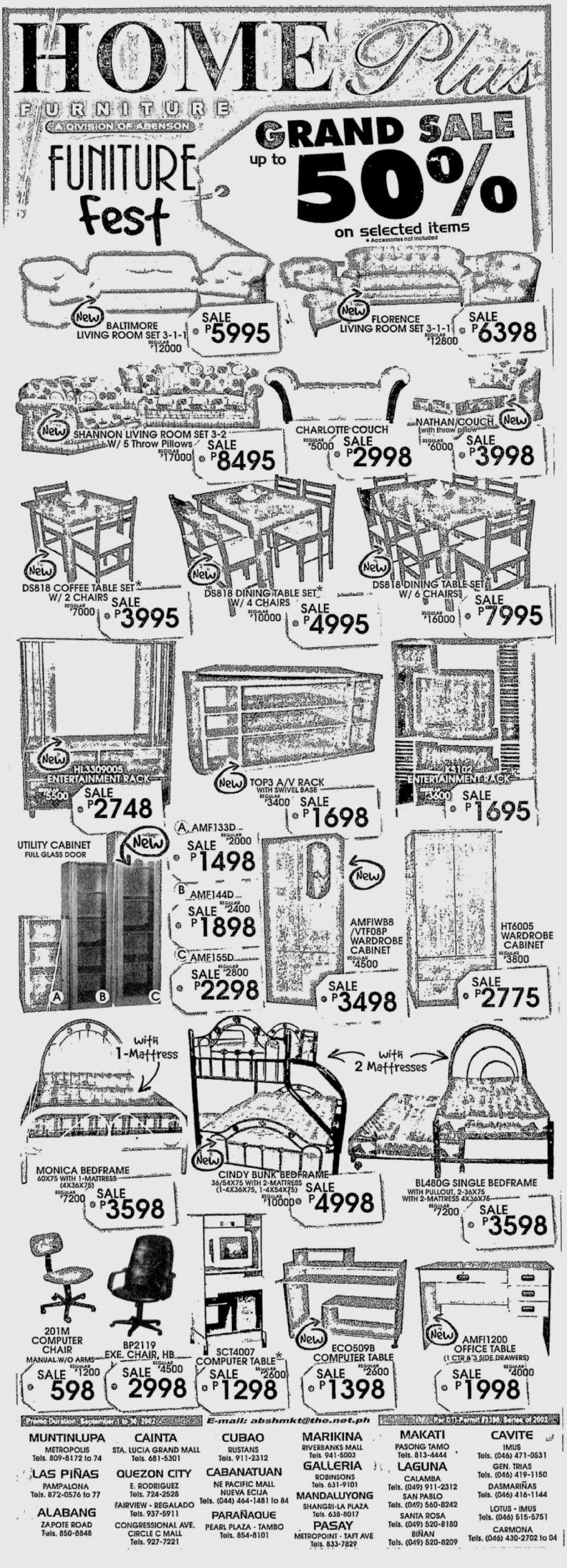
Degracia said the five were then brought to Camp Crame for paraffin tests.

Depending on the results of the investigation, including the paraffin tests, charges of alarm and scandal would be filed against Jaworski and his friends before the Rizal Provincial Prosecutors Office.

But yesterday, Senior Supt. Restituto Mosqueda, director of the PNP Crime Laboratory, refused to release to the media the results of the paraffin, drug and liquor tests conducted on the young Jaworski and his friends.

He explained that he could only release the laboratory's findings to the requesting party, referring to Supt. Rodrigo Degracia, San Juan police chief.

With a report from Rocky Nazareno



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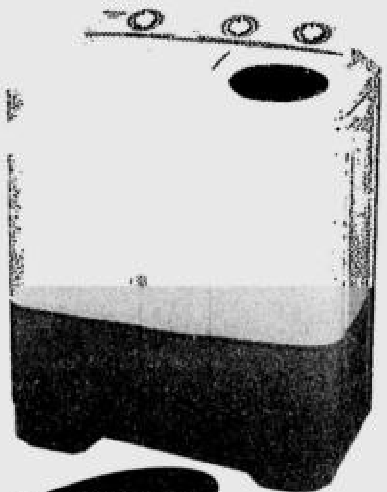
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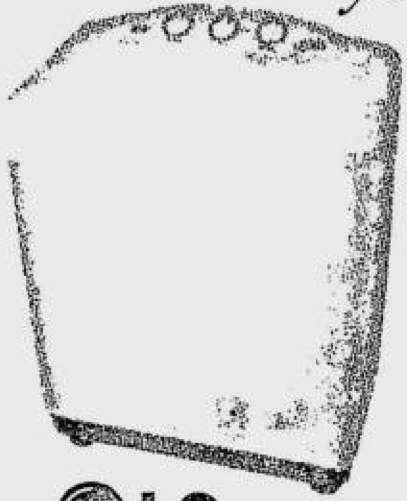
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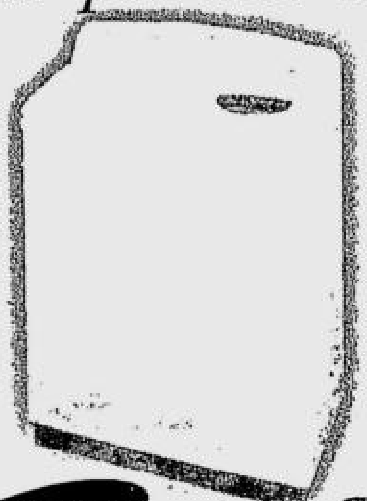
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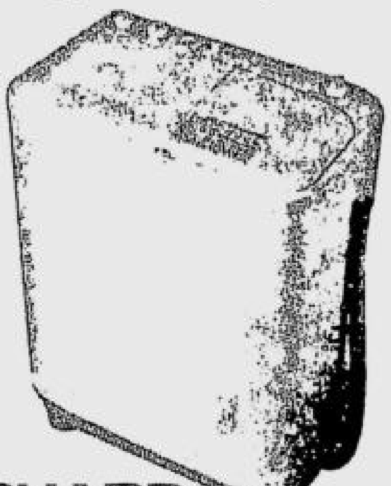
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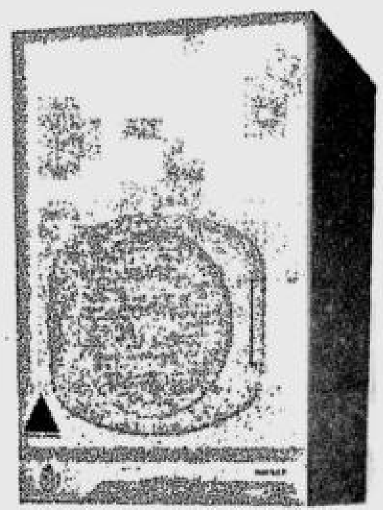
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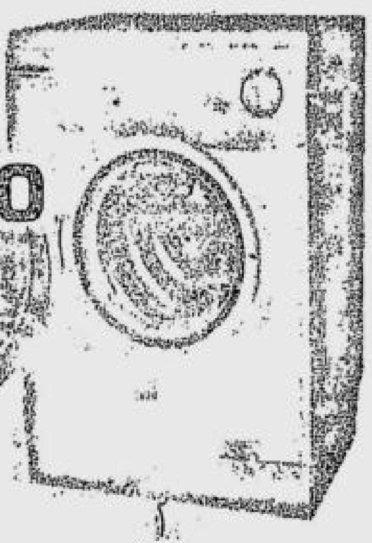
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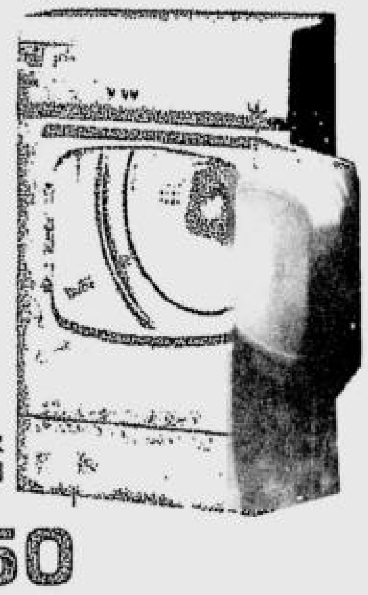
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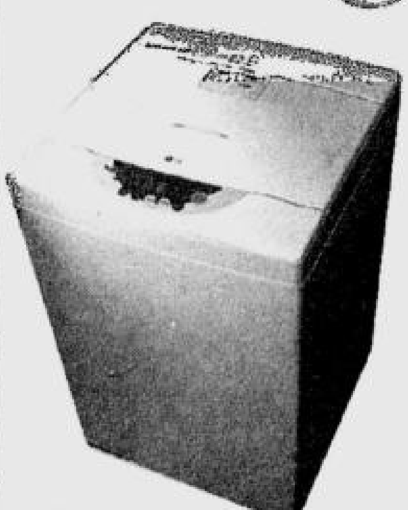
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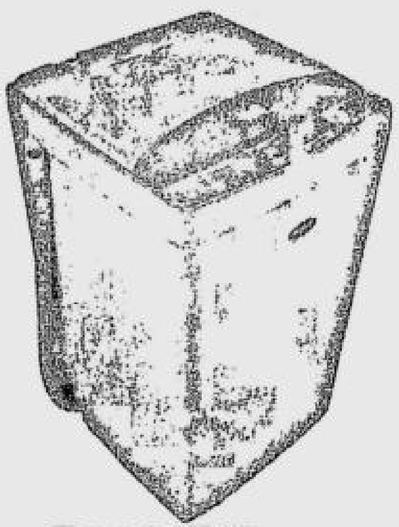
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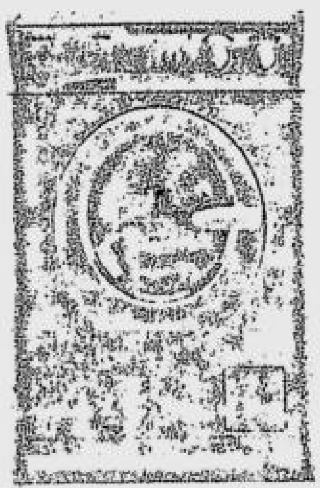
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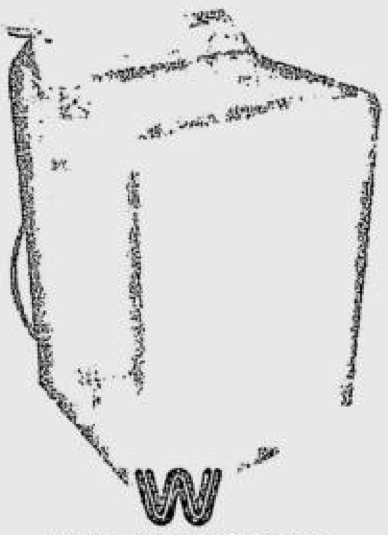
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Gloria asks FVR . . .

From page A1

administration, is "another matter."

At the same press briefing, Bishop Ramon Arguelles, CBCP's chair for migrant workers, said he wanted a "stronger diplomatic protest for the inhuman treatment of Filipinos."

But the bishop drew the line against an aggressive pursuit of the Sabah claim.

So did Akbayan Rep. Etta Rosales caution against raising the Sabah claim at this time so as not "to raise tension." But she urged the government to pursue its diplomatic protest as she denounced the deaths of 13 Filipino infants.

Action against guilty

Taufik said his government was taking the Philippine note verbale seriously. Kuala Lumpur will formally respond to the diplomatic protest personally handed by Foreign Secretary Blas Ople to Taufik early this week.

"Our officials in Sabah would be subjected to a thorough investigation. Did they deliberately turn away people, or injure them? Did they not call for a doctor if they knew that people were sick?" Taufik said. "If they did, then we will take action against them."

But he appealed for patience saying a thorough investigation would take time.

Philippine Ambassador to Malaysia Jose Brillantes said that the note verbale was not meant as an affront to Kuala Lumpur.

"It's an act from one Asean brother to another meant to correct an adverse situation for Filipinos in Sabah," said Brillantes who also noted an improvement of the treatment of the Filipino deportees following the note verbale.

Loss of pride, dignity

But in the Senate, Sen. Manuel Villar scored the Department of Foreign Affairs for its "lame foreign policy" every time the Philippines was embroiled in an international dispute.

"We are told to move slowly because we might offend the aggressor," Villar rued. Which may be the reason, the senator added, why "we have lost a lot of respect . . . We have allowed our pride and dignity to be lost..."

Sen. Francis Pangilinan, chair of the Senate committee on justice and human rights, said that "regardless of the fact that the Filipino deportees lack the necessary working papers, they have rights that should be upheld and respected as guaranteed by the United Nations Conventions on Rights of the Child and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights." ***With reports from Christine Avendaño and AFP***

Deportees 'detained' for GMA arrival

From page A1

ment of Health told the INQUIRER.

Rabino said they left Sandakan, Sabah, at around 7 p.m. on Wednesday and were scheduled to arrive here at 10:30 yesterday.

"But we arrived here at 1:30 p.m. We were told that our arrival should be synchronized with the arrival of the President in Bongao," he said.

The dehydrated children were identified as Nilsad Hassan, Ekwan Sakkam, Abdulla Tiblam, Mosrin Latip, Mikyla Latip, Henry Juan, Nurhidiya Binasri, Arjel Abdul, Libenir German and Serhana Putto.

Five other sick children were admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Kota Kinabalu, according to Rabino.

He identified the sick children as Mohammad Sahir, 1 year old; Undi Bin Ujahirin, 3; Hisshan Asnain, 1; Norshida Akob, 2; and Saliman Asnad, 2. The children were kept inside a TB (tuberculosis) ward in the hospital.

Medical officers of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and a Malaysian official refused to release the children unless the ship that would bring them home arrived there, according to Rabino.

He said Philippine health officials were not allowed to visit the children.

'Arroz caldo'

At around 2 p.m. social work officials decided to serve *arroz caldo* to the children on the Navy ship who began to cry. The adults were told to wait for the President's arrival before they could get their lunch.

A harassed-looking Ms Macapagal arrived at 2:40 p.m. with several government officials. With her was US Ambassador Francis Ricciardone who accompanied her to Zamboanga City earlier in the day.

Social Welfare Secretary Corazon Soliman ordered the deportees to disembark and proceed to the designated "processing" centers.

Asked how she felt when she saw the pitiful state of the children, she said: "Well, the challenge is how do we make life normal for them as soon as possible. How do we take care of their health needs? How do we send them to where they should be sent for their permanent residence?" she said.

It was not known if she was aware that nine children suffering from dehydration and other illnesses were brought to the hospital upon the ship's arrival.

Other tales

During a chat with the INQUIRER, some of the deportees talked of their "horrific" experiences in the hands of Malaysian authorities.

Ismad Hadjijoan, 36, of Tapiantana Island in Sumisip, Basilan, said she was arrested in July along with her five children.

She said that before she was given food, Malaysian jail authorities would order her to do at least 20 pushups. That was the routine for more than a month.

The worst thing was that the "pumping" was done inside an unclean toilet.

"Sa araw-araw, ginagawa ko yon para lang makakain ang mga anak ko. Naaawa ako sa aking sarili at sa aking mga anak pero wala akong magawa kaya gusto ko na talaga umuwi," Ismad said in between sobs.

She said the prize for performing the pushups was a small bowl of porridge for each of her children.

Her own ration consisted of dried *dilis* and four spoons of half-cooked rice.

Mujib Daji, 25, a native of Barangay Santa Barbara, Zamboanga City, said at least five Filipino adults died in the hands of abusive Malaysian jail authorities.

Jabadan Abanto, 18, of Barangay San Roque, Zamboanga City, said that every day, jail authorities would order him to roll inside a dirty toilet.

"Pagkatapos nun, ibinibilad kami sa ibabaw ng water tank, minsan six hours, *pag umangal ka ginagawang* 12 hours, *walang ligo yan kahit nag*-roll *na kami sa dumi sa loob ng kasilyas,"* Abanto said.

Kill a Malaysian

"I told myself that if I see a Malaysian in Zamboanga, I will kill him," Daji said.

In Cotabato City, Gov. Parouk Hussin of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao said he would ask the United Nations for help in handling problems brought about by the influx of deportees.

While government officials in the region were still trying to look for money for the deportees, the Vicariate of Jolo has launched a fund drive to help the returning Filipinos.

Jonathan Domingo, a missionary priest assigned in Jolo, said he felt the humiliation suffered by the deportees by merely looking at their eyes as they disembarked from Philippine Navy boats. ***With reports from Charlie C. Señase, Edwin O. Fernandez and Franklin Caliguid, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Tit for tat: DOJ readies raps vs Malaysian illegals in RP

From page A1

manity has ripped the Filipinos, among other nationalities, of their basic rights as humans and migrants, even causing the death of many innocent lives."

In another case of tit for tat, "running priest" Fr. Roberto Reyes and Msgr. Jerry Bitoon of Laguna served a "notice of expulsion" to Malaysian Ambassador Mohammad Noor Taufik.

Abner Afuang, a former mayor of Pagsanjan, Laguna, burned a Malaysian flag in front of the National Press Club office in Manila to protest Malaysia's treatment of Filipinos in Sabah.

Afuang said that many of those deported were born in Sabah, and that Malaysia had no right expelling the Filipinos because the territory was technically part of the Philippines.

"Whether they admit it or not, the truth is that the Malaysians are afraid of the growing number of Filipinos in Sabah," he said. "They are afraid that Filipinos in Sabah will one day wake up, rise in revolt and assert our rights over it."

Afuang said he would burn another Malaysian flag in front of the Malaysian Embassy today.

In the early 1990s, Afuang set fire to a Singaporean flag to protest the execution in the city-state of Filipino domestic helper Flor Contemplacion.

Last week

Perez said the influx of undocumented aliens into Zamboanga started last week when Malaysian authorities began deporting Filipinos from Sabah.

But he said these undocumented aliens from Malaysia could also include refugees from Sri Lanka.

It was Immigration Commissioner Andrea Domingo who notified Perez of the undocumented aliens. It turned out that Domingo's information came from Zamboanga City Mayor Ma. Clara Lobregat.

Perez said he had asked the NBI and Domingo to "coordinate" with the military "so that those who will be arrested will be placed in the military camp."

"We have no jail for them," he said.

He also said that apart from filing a diplomatic protest, the Philippines could sue Malaysian authorities in their own turf.

"Our only (recourse) will be on the Malaysian end, not here," he said. "We must file the charges there."

Perez said the Philippines could institute several criminal cases but that it must first question whether the deportation of Filipinos was in accordance with Malaysian laws.

Despite his directive, he said he was being "careful" not to allow the deportation issue to be blown out of proportion.

"We are careful that this situation will not end in misunderstanding and (sour) our relationship with Malaysia," said Perez, who acknowledged that the two countries had good ties before the deportation issue erupted.

"I ask Congress to calm down ... to (try to) understand things," he said. "Our sentiment in pursuing our claim to Sabah might be misinterpreted by Malaysia. We should see to it that the action of the Philippines will be consistent with international law."

Perez admitted that the Philippines could not charge Malaysia with genocide or any other crime outside its courts.

"Malaysia is not a signatory to the (creation of the) International Criminal Court. So it can't be sued. Second, the ICC is not yet created," he added.

Nonchalant

While demanding justice and remuneration for those deported, Migrante chided the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo for its "nonchalance."

"To set the record straight, the government already knew of their condition as early as January 2002," Migrante said in a statement. "Apparently, the contingency plans that (it has) formulated and is now implementing fails to provide the victims the services due them."

Gratela said that instead of jobs and livelihood, the administration has offered "nothing more than meager dole-outs and deficient services."

"It only shrugs off these people's plight by acknowledging just the necessities that arise from their exodus," he said.

Gratela expressed doubt that the Philippines could address a similar situation once the US government made good its threat to attack Iraq.

There are 1.5 million overseas Filipino workers in the Middle East.

"The administration offers nothing but lip service to the plight of the Filipino detainees in Malaysia," Gratela said. "Such a government lacks a true human heart beating for the people and a true human mind that works."

The militant fisherfolk group Pamalakaya called on the President to re-channel some P5.8 billion of the military's budget to social services for those deported from Sabah.

"It is only sensible and just to appropriate the billions in taxpayers' money for projects that will provide immediate relief and long-term socioeconomic programs to thousands of Filipino migrants maltreated and disposed of by the Malaysian government," it said.

It also said the President should exercise "common sense, political will and patriotic compassion" instead of making an "all-out but irrelevant war" against insurgents a priority.

"President Macapagal-Arroyo cannot help the Filipino deportees by merely looking at them and showing some well-acted compassion for the sake of image building and publicity mileage," Pamalakaya national chair Fernando Hicap said.

"Concrete and palpable solutions must be done to help the Filipino deportees fix their shattered lives."

Dehydrated

Reyes and Bitoon shared glasses of water with a Malaysian Embassy representative in a "toast" to refresh the "dehydrated" relationship between the Philippines and Malaysia.

"We would like to remind Malaysian authorities that we are brothers and sisters," Reyes told Rosenda Empamano, chief clerk of the embassy. "They should treat Filipinos with respect and hospitality."

Reyes, national president of the priests' group Gomburza, and Bitoon of the Laguna chapter of the Kongreso ng Mamamayang Pilipino (Kompil) issued a one-page expulsion notice to the Malaysian ambassador "for his government's gross violation of Filipinos' basic human rights." ***With reports from Jerome Aning, Agnes E. Donato and Christian V. Esguerra***

So the public may know

Dr. Francisco T. Duque III, President and CEO of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) today denied having violated Memorandum Order No. 20 requiring heads of government owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs) to take a pay cut.

"As early as July 16, 2001, we have already submitted the pay rationalization plan of our officers and employees to the Department of Budget and Management as called for by said memo. In fact, I was among the very first to implement a reduction in salaries and compensation. DBM has certified to our compliance to M.O. 20.

"We at PhilHealth fully support the national government's call for austerity measures. We have even instituted forced savings of at least five percent per budget item in our Corporate Operating Budget this year. We also auctioned off two luxury vehicles assigned to my office as early as my first month in office in June last year, in a bid to set an example of simple, practical and economical government operations at work.

"We have always been prudent in the use of the health insurance funds. As such, we would like to assure the public that the present scale of compensation of PhilHealth officers and employees is well within the range of reasonable pay packages, compared to their counterparts in the national government agencies and private sector."

A matter of protocol . . .

From page A1

tions for the 11th Mindanao Business Conference here scheduled for Aug. 28-30.

The conference is expected to be attended by 1,000 people, including delegates from Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Australia and the United States.

"It was a complete shock to learn that five or four of us will share a small room in a hotel owned by the government," a male senior foreign affairs official of a Muslim country said.

"What's worse is that there will be no cars for the senior foreign affairs officials. We're not even sure if transportation will be according to international protocols," he said.

"And how about the chef? Do they know how to prepare *halal*?" he said. *Halal* is the preparation of food in accordance with Islamic rites.

Ironically, the host of the affair, Surigao del Norte Gov. Lyndon Barbers, used to be a Department of Tourism director.

International protocol dictates that the host organization billets senior officers of foreign affairs offices in their own suites that can also accommodate their entourage, according to a protocol officer of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

But Barbers said the provincial government was "very well prepared" for the international delegation. "In fact, we have been preparing for this business conference since October last year," he said.

If the rooms of the Garden Pavilion (former Legacy Garden) and the Guesthouse at the Capitol Hills are not enough, the provincial government has arranged home stays for the delegates, according to the governor.

The Garden Pavilion can house a maximum of 28 people, while the guesthouse can accommodate up to 32 delegates.

Adopt a guest

Barbers said his office had asked wealthy Surigaonons to "adopt" a guest taking part in the business conference.

He insisted that there was no problem with transportation. "We have two coasters for the senior officials and the buses for their staff."

A DFA protocol requires each senior foreign officer to have a car. The cars must be of the same make and color.

On the issue of food, Barbers said, "our caterers know how to prepare Muslim food as Surigao is in a Muslim region. There will be Muslim food and we will not be serving pork." Less than one percent of Surigao's population is Muslim.

The Garden Pavilion used to house artifacts and memorabilia of the province's former governors. The P5-million structure, funded by Senators Ernesto Herrera, Franklin Drilon and Miriam Defensor-Santiago, was supposed to have been a museum for the Surigaonon's rich heritage and culture.

When it was completed, the former governor's families donated their memorabilia to the Legacy Garden.

When Barbers took over, he turned the structure into the Garden Pavilion and had some of his men stack the artifacts into a storeroom.

White elephant

"The Legacy Garden is a white elephant," Barbers said, "It was not an income generating facility and the province is getting nothing from it.

"Isn't it better now that as Garden Pavilion, it can earn money for the province? This is actually a unique venture. We are the only province that maintains a hotel," he said.

The conversion of the Legacy Garden into a hotel made a stir in July when descendants of some of the province's former governors expressed grief over the mishandling of the artifacts.

"But what can you expect from an American governor?" an ex-governor's relative said. "You can't expect him to respect the Surigaonon's legacy and Filipino traditions because he is not even a Filipino."

Barbers is a naturalized American citizen. But despite his citizenship, he was appointed by then President Fidel Ramos as regional director IV of the DOT in 1997. He held the post for three years. He was able to run for governor in 2001 despite a protest against his citizenship.

The conversion has cost the province P860,000. Up to now, mirrors and electric wires have not been installed in one of the buildings.

No program

Even the final program for the big event is not yet available.

"All of us in the provincial council are not aware of the program," board member Reinera Borja said. "But the governor just told us to entertain the guests."

At the conference, Joji Ilagan-Bian, chair of the Mindanao Business Council, told foreign and Filipino businessmen that Mindanao remained an "investor's" haven because of its varied business opportunities.

Jesus Dureza, presidential assistant for Mindanao affairs and government chief negotiator with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, said Mindanao's economy appeared to be more upbeat than ever largely because of the peace and development initiatives of the government.

Dureza said that despite problems in some parts of the island, the local economy had been growing. "The government peace effort has paid off," he said.

Sen. Robert Barbers, chair of the Senate committee on public order, said despite some gains in Mindanao, the government still had to do something to counter security threats.

"We have the Abu Say [illegible] criminality problem that caused [illegible] foreign investments," Barbe [illegible]

He warned that [illegible] development initiatives would fail if [illegible] threat

SUERTRES 9 2 2

SIX DIGIT (In exact order) 3 7 3 9 9 1

SUPERLOTTO 6/49 14 24 29 35 38 45

SPORTS

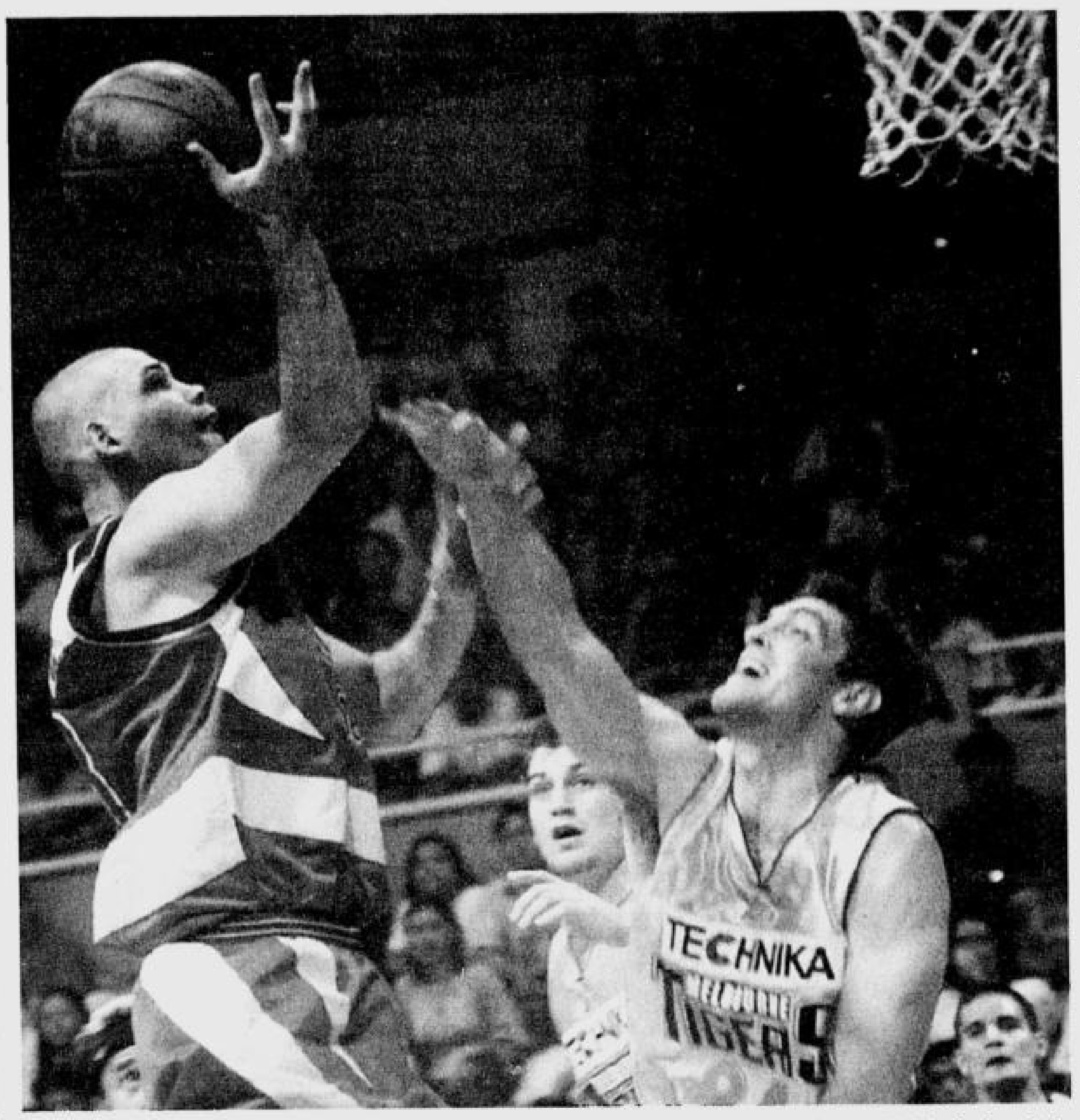
Editor Al S. Mendoza ● Associate Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

De La Hoya keeps on dreaming

LAS VEGAS--In the decade since he won the gold medal in the 1992 Olympics, Oscar De La Hoya has won titles in five weight classes, made tons of millions of dollars and even launched a side career as a singer. De La Hoya will make at least $14 million more Sept. 14 when he gets into the ring against Fernando Vargas in a 164-pound (69.853-kilogram) matchup that carries some ugly overtones.

ASIAN GAMES TUNEUP

Melbourne Tigers subdue Selecta-RP



MELBOURNE Tigers' Luke Mc Millan (right) swipes the ball away from a driving Danny Seigle during their tune-up match at the Cuneta Astrodome.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

GAMES TODAY (Araneta Coliseum)
4 p.m.—Selecta-RP vs Melbourne Tigers

By June Navarro

THE MELBOURNE Tigers provided some excitement before sending the Selecta-RP Team down to its knees, 80-76, last night in front of a fullhouse crowd at the Cuneta Astrodome.

Andrew Gaze displayed his vintage form while former PBA import Lanard Copeland delivered the killer basket as the Tigers sized up the prowess of the Nationals.

Threatening to rip the game apart in the opening minutes of the final period, the Tigers allowed the Nationals to claw back, 74-73, giving the highly partisan crowd something to cheer about before playing killjoy in the final minute.

The 37-year-old Gaze, who saw action for the 1999 NBA champions San Antonio Spurs, stripped the ball from Danny Seigle and rifled a pass to a streaking Marcus Timmons that put a stop to the Nationals' vicious comeback.

Seigle made it 76-74 with a layup but the Tigers wisely played the clock, forcing the Nationals to exhaust their fouls and send Copeland to the freethrow line for the clincher.

Seigle exploded with 27 points and six rebounds while Asi Taulava added 16 markers and 8 rebounds for the Nationals.

"We're very impressed with their (Nationals) shooting but the defensive pressure was not that good and we simply capitalized on that," said the Tigers' headcoach Lindsey Gaze.

The 64-year-old Gaze, a three-time Olympian at the height of his playing career in the 60s, also said the Nationals should play a lot more games similar to the quality that they went through against the Tigers.

"The more games they (Nationals) play at this level, the bigger opportunity of making it good in international competitions," added Gaze.

With a little help from referee Richard Villanueva, who had a couple of questionable calls, the Nationals were able to redeem their pride midway in the fourth quarter.

Asi Taulava, Jeffrey Cariaso and Danny Seigle alternated in attacking the basket as the Nationals razed a 12-point deficit with 3.24 remaining.

MELBOURNE-TIGERS 80—Copeland 19, Gaze 16, Timmons 11, Bradtke 10, Hoare 8, McMillan 6, Reuter 4, Taylor 2, Blake 2, Smith 2.

SELECTA-RP 76—Seigle 27, Taulava 16 Cariaso 9, Menk 6, Racela 6, Ildefonso 4, Hontiveros 3, Castillo 3, Seigle 2, Hatfield 0.

Quarters: 21-24, 42-45, 65-62, 80-76.

Red Bull, Talk N Text try again

By June Navarro

Red Bull vs San Miguel (2-1)
Game 1—Red Bull d. San Miguel, 82-78
Game 2—Red Bull d. San Miguel, 83-80
Game 3—San Miguel d. Red Bull, 102-68

Talk N Text vs Alaska (2-1)
Game 1—Talk N Text d. Alaska, 82-78
Game 2—Talk N Text d. Alaska, 87-79
Game 3—Alaska d. Talk N Text, 84-81

GAMES TODAY (Cuneta Astrodome)
5:30 p.m.—San Miguel vs Red Bull
7:30 p.m.—Alaska vs Talk N Text

MOMENTUM shifted to the other side as San Miguel Beer and Alaska broke the Batang Red Bull and Talk N Text juggernaut with contrasting victories Wednesday night.

Getting a new lease on life, the Beermen and the Aces attempt to even up matters today in Game 4 of the PBA Samsung Commissioner's Cup semifinals at the Cuneta Astrodome.

The Aces found it tough to extinguish the Phone Pals, 84-81, while the Beermen easily preyed on the Thunder, 102-68, as they cut their respective best-of-five semifinal series to 2-1.

"It doesn't make a difference if we won 40 points or two points, we're still down in the series. I hope we maintain our level of play and tie the series," said San Miguel interim coach Siot Tanquincen.

Nothing seemed to go wrong for the Beermen as Nic Belasco, Dwight Lago and Boybits Victoria gave imports Shea Seals and Terq Mott a hand on neutralizing the Thunder's inside strength.

The Beermen did it in the Commissioner's Cup Finals last year at the expense of the Thunder when they climbed from a 0-2 deficit and leveled the count only to give up Games 5 and 6, allowing Batang Red Bull to walk away with its first-ever PBA crown.

Repeating the Aces' magical act against the Phone Pals would also require a lot of support from their locals with Jojo Lastimosa, Ali Peek, Robert Duat and Rodney Santos tasked to unburden the load for Chris Carawell and Ajani Williams.

Bayno fined P20,000 more

TALK N Text coach Bill Bayno drew another fine, this time worth P20,000 for cursing the referees during the Alaska-Talk N Text Game 3 on Wednesday.

Adding earlier fines of P200,000 and P10,000, Bayno has an accumulated penalty of P230,000.

"I want to extend my heartfelt apologies to all the coaches and players in the league and most specially to all the young kids who saw my actions after the game," Bayno said in a statement. *JN*

Benilde eyes solo top spot against JRU

GAMES TODAY (Rizal Coliseum)
11:30 a.m.–San Beda vs Mapua
3:30 p.m.–St. Benilde vs Jose Rizal

COLLEGE of St. Benilde has the solo leadership in mind when it tackles Jose Rizal University today in the NCAA basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Already guaranteed of a Final Four appearance, the Blazers try to inch closer to a twice-to-beat edge and reclaim the leadership they relinquished following a 67-70 debacle against pace-setter San Sebastian College.

If they topple the Heavy Bombers in the 3:30 p.m. clash and spill their luck against the Letran Knights on Monday, the Blazers will automatically grab one of the top two spots and the twice-to-beat advantage that goes with it.

But the Heavy Bombers, with seven wins and four setbacks to show, are proven tough customers in the past and wouldn't go down easily without a fight.

Bombers' Marco Polo Fajardo, Joel Finuliar, McDonald Santos and rookie Edward Atunaga are known for their never-say-die spirit, a trait they exhibited against the Dolphins, 94-91, and the San Beda Lions, 88-84. *June Navarro*

Warriors post 8th win; Blue Eagles arrest slide

UE swingman James Yap gets fouled by FEU's Don Yabut as he goes for a twinner during their UAAP game yesterday. The Warriors won, 80-75.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

By Dennis U. Eroa

GAMES TOMORROW
2 p.m.—Adamson vs UP
4 p.m.—UST vs Ateneo

UNIVERSITY of the East subdued Far Eastern University, 80-75, even as Ateneo stopped a three-game losing streak by whipping National University, 90-79, yesterday in the UAAP basketball tournament at the Makati Coliseum.

The Red Warriors dug deep in the face of the Tamaraws' relentless attack in the dying minutes, securing their eighth straight win after dropping their first two on Arnold Booker and Ronald Tubid's steady hands from the three-point area.

'It's about character," said UE coach Boysie Zamar, whose charges will meet the league-leading La Salle Archers (10-0) on Sunday at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

Playing with boundless energy, the Red Warriors tormented the Tamaraws with a 23-6 start, but they were unprepared when their foes made a daring run from 15 points down, 75-58, barely four minutes remaining.

After Tubid and Booker made it 78-75, 12 seconds left, FEU's bench and supporters fell into stony silence as controversial rookie Arwind Santos bungled a triple which led to James Yap's two free throws.

"Everybody wants to shoot. It's showtime," Zamar said, referring to UE's shaky finish.

National University battled Ateneo evenly most of the way but the Bulldogs found no answer when the 6-foot-5 Enrico Villanueva and six-foot-4 Rich Alvarez pounded the middle relentlessly. Wesley Gonzales, Jec Chia and Larry Fonacier also scored, keeping the Bulldogs at bay.

Cris Quimpo and Macky Escalona alternated in filling in the shoes left by injured playmaker LA Tenorio, who watched the game from the bench with his fractured right hand in cast.

"We're treating every game as a championship game," said Ateneo coach Joel Banal, who pumped his fist in relief as the final buzzer sounded.

Scores:

ATENEO 90—Villanueva 22, Gonzales 20, Chia 12, Fonacier 11, Quimpo 8, Alvarez 7, Cruz 6, Tadeo 4, Escalona 0.

NU 79—Baguion 18, Urbano 14, Cajayon 12, Grijaldo 10, Napa 6, Miclat 6, Mendoza 6, Tolentino 4, Catamora 3, Arellaga 0.

23-23, 52-45, 69-68, 90-79

(Second Game)

UE 80—Artadi 22, Booker 17, Yap 12, Tubid 11, Canaleta 8, Estrada 6, Omiping 5, Masbang 90, Butel 0.

FEU 75—Sinco 17, Jones 17, Catil 10, Isip 10, Miranda 6, Cutler 6, Rizada 5, Razon 2, garcia 2, Santos 0.

Quarters: 23-15, 47-35, 67-47, 80-75

Capulan, Laxamana co-leaders

UNHERALDED bowlers Rene Capulan of NSBA and Imelda Laxamana of Pasig took the early A&B singles' lead Tuesday in the 28th National Open duckpin bowling championships at the Puyat Sports Center in StarMall along Edsa.

Capulan shot 424 to pull away from Vic Uy (406), Bert Sales (404), Paeng Bernabe (395) and Jess Callanta (392) in the men's division.

Laxamana tallied 385 to pace Greena Gregorio (381), Jutay Montibon (370), Mila Ayap (358), Beth Pagkalinawan (355) and Remy Princesa (355) in the ladies' bracket.

Other frontrunners in the tourney organized by PHIDBC (Philippine Duckpin Bowling Council) led by Inez G. Magbual are:

Men's team—StarMall (1090), BDBA-BATS 1 (1076), NSBA-WILLY 1 (1063), SODA-SDR (1059) and NSBA-RN (1049).

Ladies' team—BDBA-BATS 1 (1080), CADBA-EGN (1009), CADBA-GIB (1008), SODA-BMN (933) and NSBA-WILLY (965).

Men's singles (class C)—Alex Pascual (402), Bert Gera (388), Rene Glema (384), Totoy Bautista (378) and Ricky Santos (370).

China team to Asiad largest ever

BEIJING—China is sending a 948-strong delegation to the 14th Asian Games in Busan, South Korea, its largest-ever at any international multi-event games.

"The mission for the Chinese delegation is to secure a top finish at the golds and medals standings and maintain our lead in Asia," said Li Furong, deputy chef de mission of the Chinese delegation, at a press conference here on Thursday. "It will not be an easy job and we will work hard for it."

The biggest challenge for China will come from the hosts South Korea and Japan, which are also traditional sports powerhouses.

UST rips PUP, advances to adidas Streetball Finals

NORTHERN Luzon eliminations champion University of Sto. Tomas, starring pint-sized point guard Irene Cahilig, whipped NCR victor Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), 17-14, to grab the Women's crown in the National Finals of the adidas Streetball Challenge 2002 recently at SM City-Cebu.

The 5-foot-flat Cahilig, who earned the monicker "Little Iverson," overcame her height deficit and exploded for nine points to power the Golden Tigresses to the title.

UST jumped the gun early and never looked back, leaning on the excellent penetrations of Cahilig and the post-up plays of Nerissa Noscal.

The PUP Marooners-Stars, behind high-scoring center Genebeth Ramos, tried to come back but eventually lost steam in the closing stages of the game to hand the championship to UST.

Cahilig, who ran rings around the defense of PUP, was later voted Most Valuable Player of the distaff side.

Supporting Cahilig apart from Noscal in the UST title-winning team were Juvy Salazar and Aileen Arcigal, with coach Peque Tan at the helm.

Team members of runner-up PUP were Ramos, Rochelle Gabest, Gladys Aboyme and Michelle Pacheco, with coach Emily Valenzuela.

With their victory, the UST Golden Tigresses, together with Seniors champion the University of the Visayas Green Lancers, are on their way to Shanghai, China to wear the country's tri-colors to the adidas Streetball Finals 2002, scheduled on Aug. 29-Sept. 1. Special guests to the event are NBA young stars and adidas athletes Antawn Jamison of the Golden State Warriors and Mike Miller of the Orlando Magic.

Presenting the trophies, medals and prizes during the awarding ceremonies were top officials of adidas Phlippines–John Alonte, president and managing director; Angelica Suiza, marketing director; Goody Custodio, sports marketing manager; and, Odette Velarde, assistant marketing services manager. Also present at the event was Purefoods star and adidas endorser Rey Evangelista.

The adidas Streetball Challenge 2002 was also presented by Growee and WG&A Zip in cooperation with Gatorade, Absolute pure distilled drinking water, Zed, Taylormade Golf, Salomon, Magic 89.9 dwTM and 99.5 RT.

SportsTV

Compiled by L. Manguiat

TENNIS: US Open 2002 - Men's/Women's Second Round at 7 a.m. (r - 7 p.m.), Third Round at 10:30 p.m. on Star Sports
GOLF: LPGA Bank of Montreal Canadian Women's Open, Second Round at 7:30 a.m. (r - 2 p.m.) on ESPN
Inside the PGA Tour at 10:30 a.m. (r - 2 p.m.) on Star Sports
PGA Golf Air Canada Championship, First Round at 5 p.m. on Star Sports
SOCCER: Here We Go! FAPL Preview Show 03 at 7:30 p.m. (r - 10 p.m.) on ESPN

US-Algeria on; Miller doubtful

SOLAR TODAY
1-3 p.m./9-11 p.m.–China vs Germany
RPN/SOLAR TODAY
7-9 p.m.–USA vs Algeria

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana–Indiana Pacers guard Reggie Miller is questionable for the United States' World Basketball Championship opener today with a sprained right ankle.

Miller, who won gold medals in the 1994 world championships and 1996 Olympics, injured the ankle in an exhibition game against Germany on Sunday.

He has been receiving treatment, and US coach George Karl said a decision would be made before his team's opening match against Algeria.

Other games today: China-Germany, New Zealand-Russia, Argentina-Venezuela, Yugoslavia-Angola, Canada-Spain, Brazil-Lebanon, Puerto Rico-Turkey.

"I had a better day than yesterday," Miller said Wednesday. "As more time goes by, obviously the better I'll feel. If this was a playoff game, obviously I'd push myself. We'll see how it feels but if I don't play, it would be more beneficial for the later games against Germany and China."

Karl was looking even further ahead in the 11-day tournament.

"I want Reggie Miller to play in the quarterfinals, semifinals and finals," he said. "I don't want him to play in these (preliminary) games if it's somehow going to jeopardize his status for the later rounds."

AFP

Solar carries World cagefest

SOLAR Entertainment Corporation will telecast all the games of the star-studded, NBA-powered USA basketball squad that will compete in the 14th Fiba World Basketball Championships from today up to Sept. 9.

Solar will telecast at least eight games of Team USA and 30 games overall of world championship games participated in by 16 top national teams, including Yugoslavia, Russia, Brazil and Germany.

Solar will air the games on a same day, "slightly delayed" basis every day, 7-9 p.m., on RPN-9, and on Solar Channel 17 on Skycable /Homecable starting today when USA meets Algeria and until the end of the tournament on Sept. 9.

On Saturday (Aug. 31), USA takes on Germany, which is bannered by NBA star Dirk Nowitzki of the Dallas Mavericks. Two-time Olympian Charles Barkley considers Germany as one of Team USA's toughest opponents, aside from Russia and Yugoslavia, which has five NBA players on its roster, including Peja Stojakovic and Vlade Divac of the Sacramento Kings.

The USA-China game on Sunday (Sept. 1) will give Filipino fans a close look at the Chinese squad that will face the Philippine national team composed of PBA stars in the Asian Games.

The reigning Asian champions feature 2002 NBA No. 1 overall draft pick Yao Ming (Houston Rockets), and Menk Bateer of the Denver Nuggets.

Solar will also telecast Team USA's next three games on Sept. 3-5 against opponents to be determined, as well as the semifinals and finals.

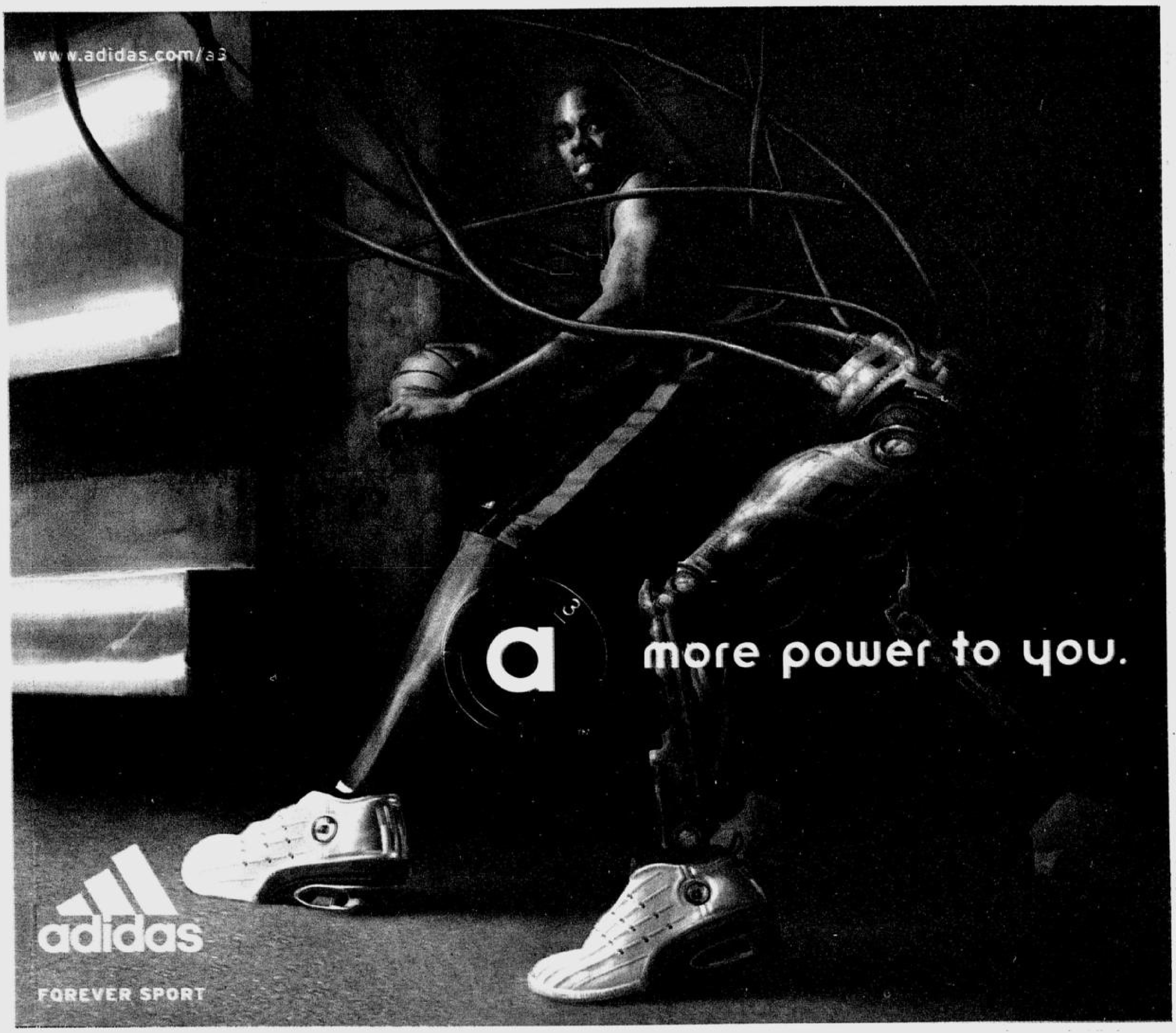
Games on Solar Channel 17 will be aired 1-3 p.m. and 9-11 p.m. daily.

Team USA is spearheaded by Paul Pierce (Boston Celtics), Michael Finley (Dallas Mavericks), Raef Lafrentz (Dallas Mavericks) and hometown favorites Reggie Miller and Jermaine O'Neal (Indiana Pacers). The team also has Elton Brand (LA Clippers), Antonio Davis (Toronto Raptors), Shawn Marion (Phoenix Suns), Andre Miller (LA Clippers), Ben Wallace (Detroit Pistons), Baron Davis (Charlotte Hornets), who replaced the injured Jason Kidd, and rookie Jay Williams (Chicago Bulls), who replaced the injured Ray Allen.

Coach George Karl of the Milwaukee Bucks will lead the American team.

During the last world championships in 1998 in Greece, Team USA could only manage a bronze medal after fielding a team of collegians and professional players who were either competing overseas or in the Continental Basketball Association. Yugoslavia won the gold and Russia the silver.

NOWITZKI



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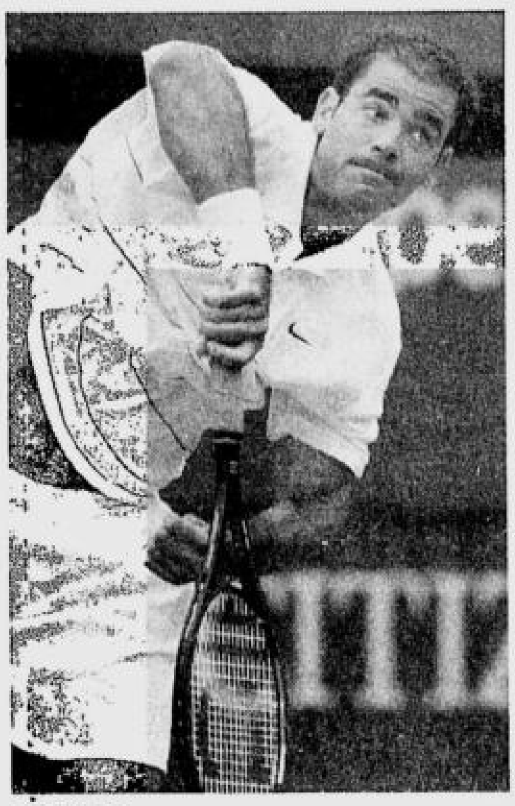
Williams, Sampras advance with ease



SAMPRAS AFP

NEW YORK—World number one Serena Williams and 13-time Grand Slam champion Pete Sampras advanced with ease here Wednesday at the US Open, while third seed Tommy Haas struggled to win and surrendered the shirt off his back.

It was that sort of strange day at the year's final Grand Slam tournament, one which ended in rain with four matches being postponed to Thursday, including the one fourth seed Lindsay Davenport led 6-4, 2-2 over Hungary's Petra Mandula.

Reigning Wimbledon and French Open champion Williams routed Russia's Dinara Safina 6-0, 6-1 to reach the third round while four-time US Open winner Sampras blasted Spain's Albert Portas 6-1, 6-4, 6-4, in a first-round affair.

Germany's Haas, who has battled forearm tendinitis the past two weeks, had the best match of the blustery day, outlasting 61st-ranked Spaniard David Sanchez 7-6 (7/1), 3-6, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5 in three hours and 23 minutes.

Haas tried to wear a sleeveless shirt for the match but US Tennis Association officials would not allow it, forcing a change just before the start.

Williams needed only 40 minutes to oust the 16-year-old sister of 2001 US Open men's champion Marat Safin and stretch her Grand Slam win streak to 16 matches.

Serena and sister Venus, the second-seeded defending champion, hope to meet for the fourth time in the past five Grand Slam finals—trying to create a dynasty to rival that of the glory days of Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova.

Sampras, who has not won a title since setting the all-time Slam singles record in Wimbledon at 2000, fired 10 aces and 33 winners to oust Portas in 93 minutes. *AFP*

34 schools early entries in Q Games

AN INITIAL list of 34 schools have confirmed their participation in the inaugural Quest for Excellence, also known as the Q Games, which will feature competitions in sports, academics and the arts when it fires off in October.

The turnout, an interesting mix of the country's top schools which are leaders in sports and academics, gave officials of the Quest for Excellence Inc., organizer of the event, to aim for a 50-school amalgamation which will have one winner bringing home the coveted Presidential Cup.

Among the early entries were Adamson, Arellano University, Assumption College, Ateneo High, Benedictine Abbey International School, Centro Escolar University, Dela Salle-Zobel, Don Bosco Technical College-Mandaluyong, Don Bosco Technical Institute-Makati, Flos Carmeli, Jose Rizal University, La Salle Greenhills, Lourdes School, Makati Science, New Era University, Paref-Northfield School for Boys, Pasig Catholic College, Philippine Science High School, Philippine Women's University, Polytechnic University of the Phils.-Taguig, Saint Francis of Assisi System, San Beda, School of the Holy Spirit-QC, Southville International School, St. Benedict College, St. Mary of the Woods School, St. Mary's College Quezon City, St. Paul Collee of Manila, St. Paul College-Pasig, Trinity College, University of Santo Tomas, University of Perpetual Help and Xavier School.

For inquiries call 6313990.

SPORTSWATCH

Sy gains 10-under tennis q'finals

THIRD seed Aikio Sy of New Life Christian Academy defeated Ma. Regina Santiago, 6-2, 6-1, yesterday to reach the unisex 10-under quarterfinals of the Philta Classic 4 age-group tournament at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center. Sy will meet No. 5 Paul Nicole Magaway, who scored a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Christopher Mutuc at 9 a.m. today.

Air Freight supports table tennis

AIR Freight 2100, the local franchise owner of Federal Express, has given its commitment to provide financial support and equipment to the grassroots and junior development programs of the Table Tennis Association of the Philippines (Tatap). Tatap president Vic Valbuena said Air Freight 2100 chair Bert Lina assured Tatap of financial assistance to the national junior team, including the three coaches and the association's provincial and regional tournaments.

IOC recommends Hasan expulsion

LAUSANNE, Switzerland—The IOC executive board decided Wednesday to recommend the expulsion of Indonesian member Mohamad "Bob" Hasan, who is serving a six-year prison term for corruption. The decision followed a report from the International Olympic Committee's ethics commission. Hasan, an IOC member since 1994, was a business partner of former Indonesian strongman Suharto.

RACING TIPS

AT STA. ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Joaqi 2. Richie Rich 3. Busanda Strike 4. Sir Olizon 5. Rindo Maker
Race 2—1. Thunder Speed 2. St. Emilion
Race 3—1. Sham Sham 2. Flying Fortress 3. Flying Strike 4. Full Show 5. Hotrod
Race 4—1. Vanicx/Rain Check 2. Beatitudes 3. Cycloneferros 4. Full Blast 5. Bari Bari
Race 5—1. Sabik 2. Mister Cool 3. Explorer
Race 6—1. Reigns Supreme/Bukambibig 2. Ikaw/Lovely Luigi 3. Terminal Bound 4. Ready Aim Fire 5. Bull Strike
Race 7—1. Happy Return 2. Rising Fast 3. Maximo 4. Roman Dance
Race 8—1. Terribly One 2. Lorna 3. Good Rate 4. Breakaway Artist 5. T Square
Race 9—1. Yes Sir 2. Jackpot 3. Silver Flyer 4. Del Mar/Time Specialist 5. King Ram 6. Due Process

Chess tourney at J&F

THE J&F Divino Bldg. becomes the newest venue for the Metropolitan Chess Club tournaments and clinics in Quezon City.

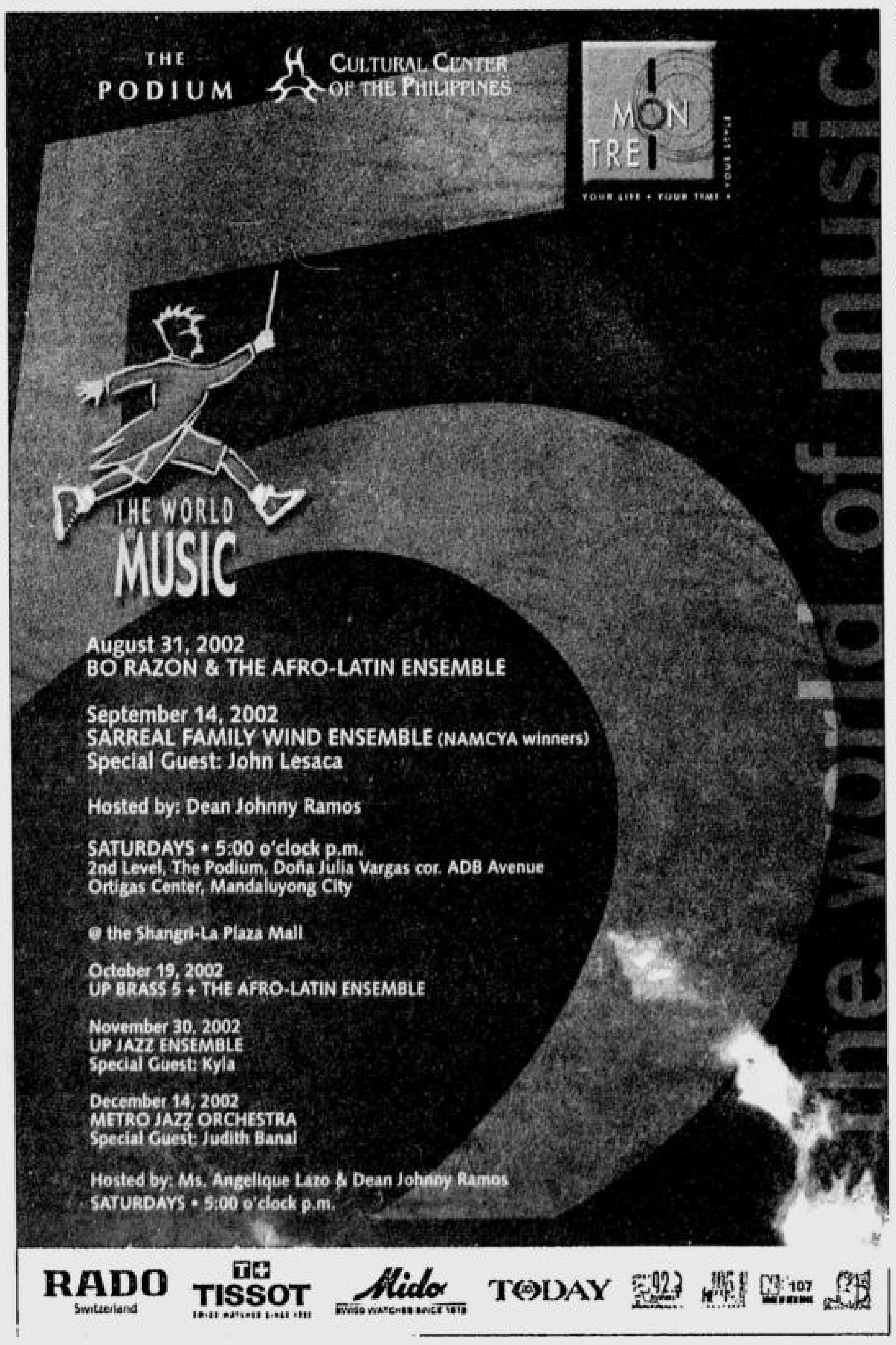
Come Sept. 8, a non-master tournament will be held at the 3rd floor of the building located at #967 Aurora Blvd., near Anonas St., and beside St. Joseph Church.

Milo Checkmate Sunday-clinic will also be conducted on the said place starting on Oct. 6.

For details, call MCC at 826-8560 and 0916-852-1069.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

THE NATIONAL Capital Region beat Cebu-Lhuillier, 1-0, to bag the fourth Don Andres Soriano Jr. Football Cup in Dumaguete City. Also today in 1992, Eddie Bagtas fired a 68 to post a one-stroke victory over Robert Pactolerin in the PTA-Zamboanga Open.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Hosted by: Dean Johnny Ramos

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Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City

@ the Shangri-La Plaza Mall

October 19, 2002
UP BRASS 5 + THE AFRO-LATIN ENSEMBLE

November 30, 2002
UP JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Special Guest: Kyla

December 14, 2002
METRO JAZZ ORCHESTRA
Special Guest: Judith Banal

Hosted by: Ms. Angelique Lazo & Dean Johnny Ramos
SATURDAYS • 5:00 o'clock p.m.

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*Per DTI-NCR Permit No.1728 Series of 2002

Pizarro beats 92-strong field in World Seniors golf; RP Team grabs 2nd

PIZARRO

THE PHILIPPINES' Danny Pizarro, a retired commodore, won the international title yesterday in the World Amateur Golf Senior Championship in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA.

The 62-year-old Pizarro, the president of the Riviera Golf Club in Silang, Cavite, fired a gross 72 in a big followup to his opening round 83.

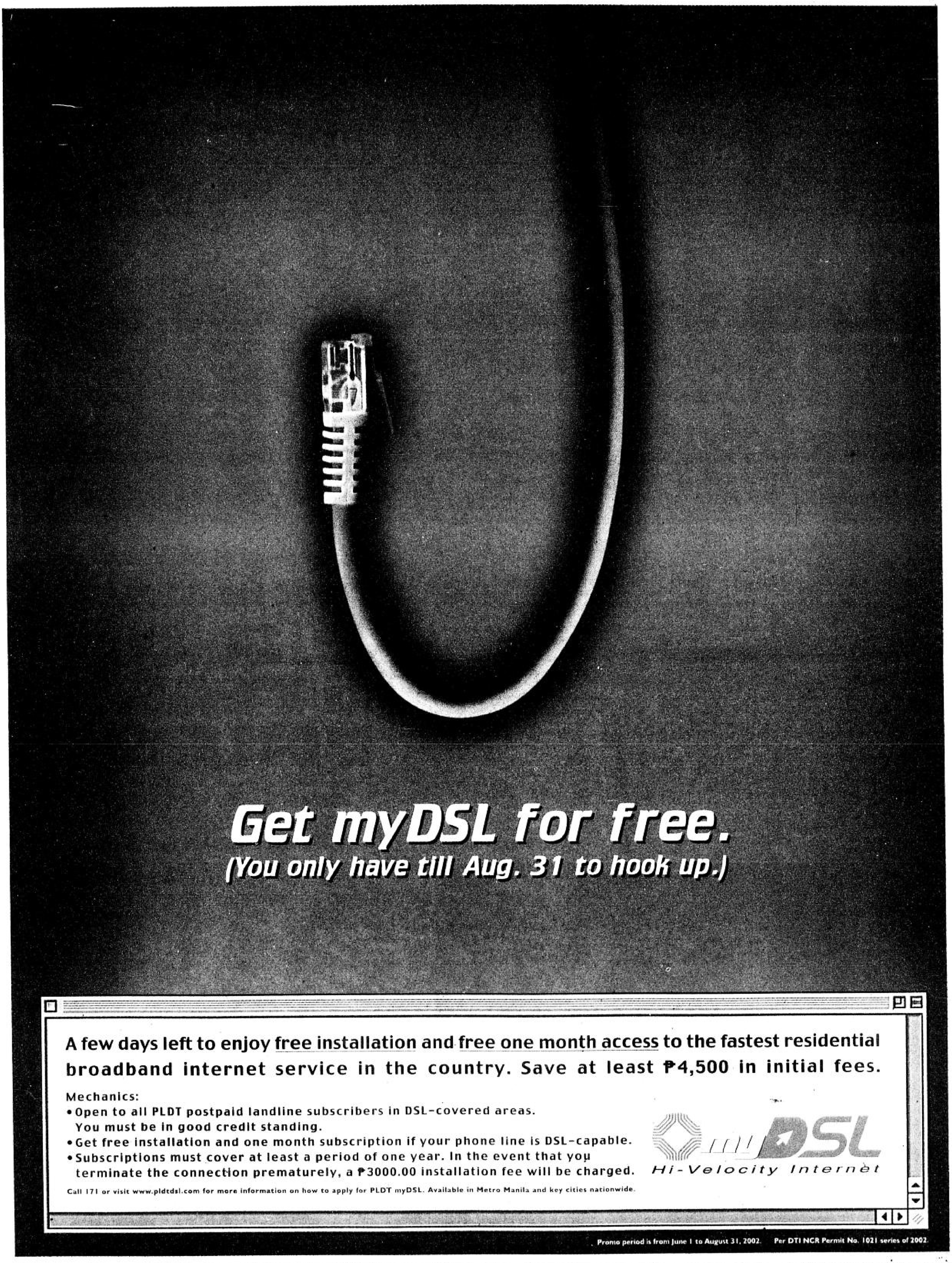
He pocketed low net medal honors, beating 92 players from 13 countries in the tournament reserved for 55 years old and above.

"I couldn't do anything wrong today," Pizarro told the INQUIRER. "I dedicate this victory to the Filipino people."

Pizarro's monumental success plus the heads-up play of Col. Leonardo Calderon and Benigno M. Gopez propelled the Philippines to a runner-up finish in team play.

The tournament format was four-to-play, three-to-count.

Brazil won the crown ahead of 12 countries, including Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan, Singapore, Israel, Uruguay and Sweden, among others. The tournament was played at the Twin Warriors Golf Club at Tamaya Resort. *ASM*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Per DTI-NCR Permit No 3018 Series of 2002

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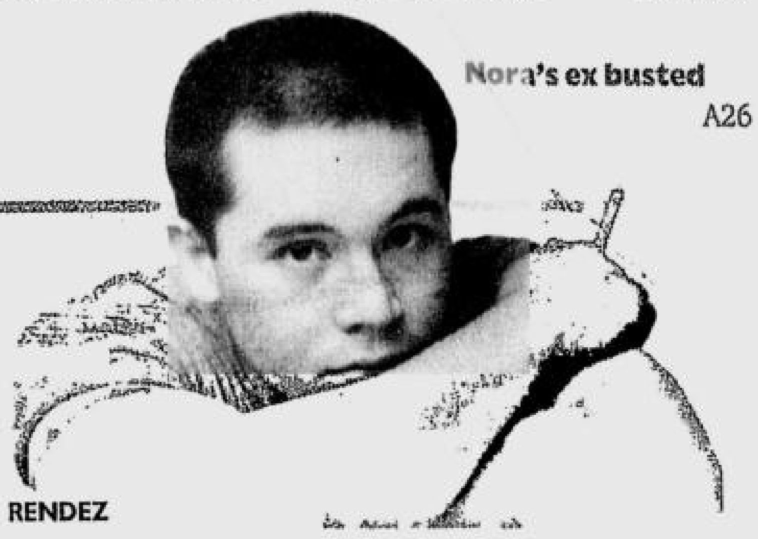
Ex-TV exec, German consultant found dead/ A26

METRO

Editor Louie C. Camino



Nora's ex busted
A26

RENDEZ

Court asked to stop Fernando

By Jerome Aning and Christian V. Esguerra

A SMALL political party yesterday asked a Manila court to stop the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority chairman's plan to douse kerosene on vendors' goods to drive the vendors off the sidewalks.

In a four-page petition for declaratory relief dated Aug. 28, the Manila-based Social Justice Society also asked the court to rule whether the kerosene-dousing plan is lawful and constitutional.

"The court can...in a dispassionate manner, settle a controversy which is the cause of demonstrations in the streets and which may result in senseless violence," the SJS said.

SJS president Samson Alcantara cited constitutional provisions on the state's role in

COURT/A26

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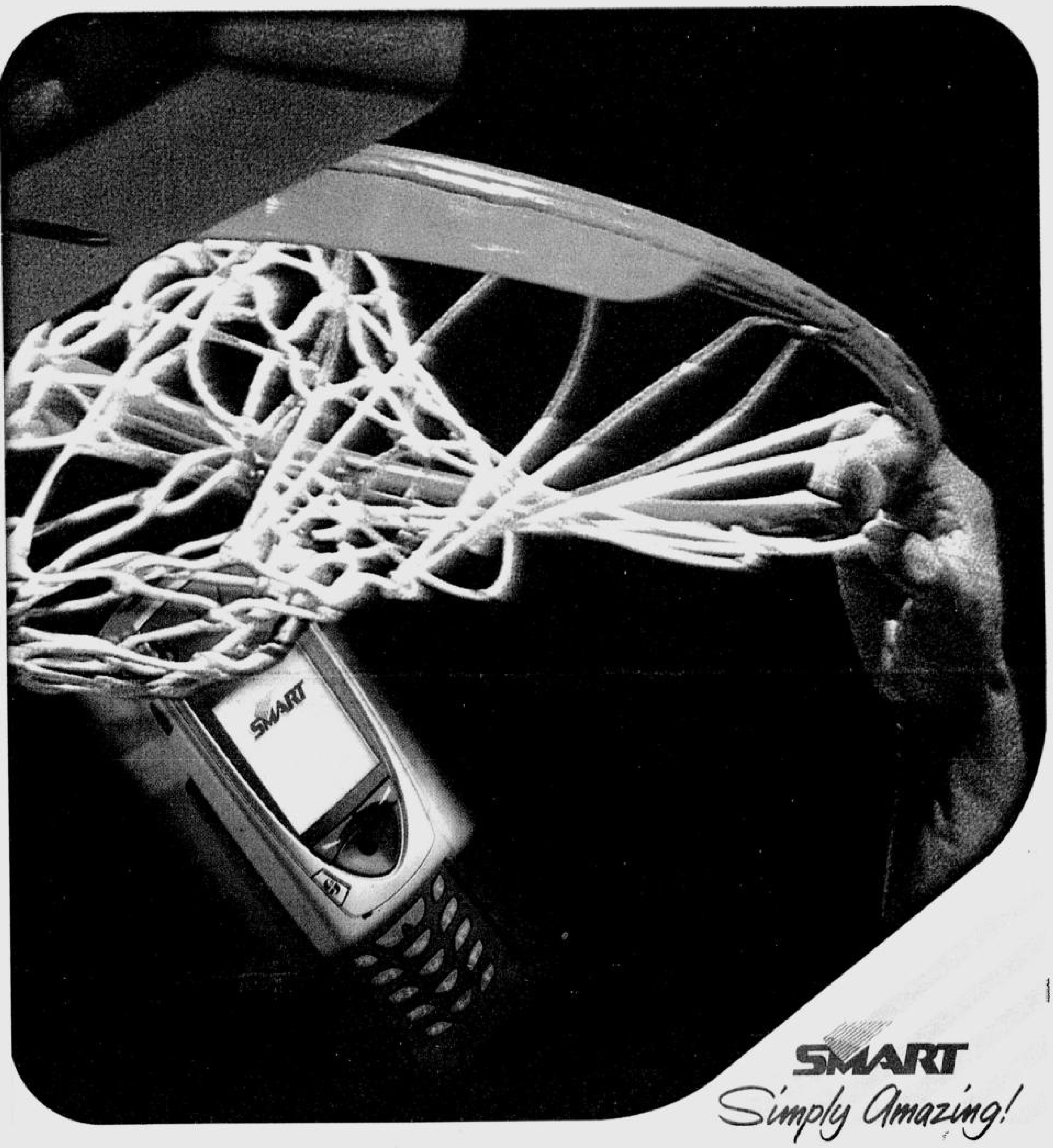

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RPN9 :	SOLAR :
Question 1 between 7pm - 8pm Question 2 between 8pm - 9pm	Question 1 between 7pm - 8pm Question 2 between 8pm - 9pm Question 3 between 9pm - 10pm Question 4 between 10pm - 11pm

2002 WORLD BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP
RPN SOLAR Information Gateway Solar Entertainment Corporation

SUMMARY OF SOLAR SPORTS SPECIALS

PROGRAM	CHANNEL	BROADCAST SCHEDULE	DATE
China vs Germany	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	30-Aug
USA vs Algeria	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	30-Aug
Spain vs Yugoslavia	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	31-Aug
USA vs Germany	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	31-Aug
Canada vs Yugoslavia	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 7 PM - 9 PM	1-Sep
USA vs China	RPN/SOLAR	9 PM - 11 PM	1-Sep
TBD	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	3-Sep
USA vs TBD	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	3-Sep
TBD	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	4-Sep
USA vs TBD	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	4-Sep
TBD	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	5-Sep
USA vs TBD	RPN	7 PM - 9 PM	5-Sep
Quarterfinals 2	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	6-Sep
Quarterfinals 1	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	6-Sep
Quarterfinals 4	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 9 PM - 11 PM	7-Sep
Quarterfinals 3 *	RPN/SOLAR	7 PM - 9 PM	7-Sep
Semi-Finals 2	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 7 PM - 9 PM	8-Sep
Semi-Finals 1	RPN/SOLAR	9 PM - 11 PM	8-Sep
3rd - 4th Place Final	SOLAR	1 PM - 3 PM / 6 PM - 8 PM	9-Sep
Championship	RPN/SOLAR	8 PM - 10 PM	9-Sep

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- Benito Dellosa, *Laguna*

DIESEL MAX
Above all diesels

Why Gerry Peñalosa fights like a tiger again

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

HERE'S something hitherto untold about the Gerry Peñalosa-Rudy Salud relationship.

Salud, the manager, had stopped talking to his boxer prior to Peñalosa's fight against Seiji Tanaka in Hawaii last Aug. 21.

You see, boxer-manager affairs can never be likened to the blind relationships a certain Kris often falls into.

So, before you suspect something else, here's the score. Salud said he decided to stop calling and checking on Peñalosa in his California camp, where the former world super flyweight boxing champ has been training under Freddie Roach, for a very special purpose.

Salud said he wanted Gerry to feel neglected. He said he wanted to rouse the old anger, the original ferocity in Peñalosa.

"Gusto ko talagang galitin," Salud told the Inquirer.

***

Did the ploy pay off?

Watch for yourself, Salud said.

The replay of that Hawaiian outing will be telecast over IBC 13 tomorrow evening.

Salud sounded convinced that he had succeeded in making Peñalosa an intense, fierce fighter again.

"In a way, I had myself to blame," Salud said. "My friends and my sons told me I had spoiled Gerry."

Yes, Salud had suspected that his sweet treatment of Peñalosa could have contributed to the deterioration in the fighter's killer instinct.

Salud singled out Peñalosa's tentative stance in his title quest against Masamori Tokoyama in Yokohama last year.

In that fight, Salud recalled that Peñalosa squandered his talent by merely trying to put up a good defense when he could have dug in hard for the kill.

"Parang ayaw na lang masaktan," **Salud explained**

***

No, Salud said, he was not 100 percent pleased with Peñalosa's performance in Hawaii. By plain estimate, he said, Gerry must be only 80 percent of what he should be when he clashes with Tokoyama for the world 115-pound crown in Osaka on Nov. 8.

But Salud sounded more than gratified that he has succeeded in rousing the tiger in his fighter.

The Peñalosa we will be watching in the replay tomorrow is a very sharp, hungry, unforgiving body puncher.

That's exactly what he wanted Gerry to be, Salud said.

Why? Because, as coach Freddie Roach explained, Gerry, being a short boxer, is often outsmarted by taller foes, like Tokoyama, who merely had to stick and dance, shoot and move out in running circles around Peñalosa.

The only solution to this handicap is for Gerry to go for the body which, as fight sages say, has got no eyes.

***

Has Gerry perfected his new arsenal?

In big way he has, Salud explained.

Still, the amiable manager detected something sorely lacking with Gerry in that Hawaiian outing. His punches to the head often missed the target. Gerry was often a few inches short.

That, Salud explained, should be corrected once Gerry returns to Manila before he heads for the crown quest in Osaka.

How? Would Salud again refuse to talk to his fighter? Would he pretend to neglect him?

No, Salud explained, Gerry is his old ferocious, tigerish self again. It's just a matter of breathing and Salud said he has somebody very special to Gerry who will provide the perfect remedy. Mr. Salud refused to elaborate.

Nora's ex-BF arrested

By Jerome Aning

ACTRESS Nora Aunor's former live-in partner and a companion were arrested yesterday morning for carrying firearms and possession of illegal drugs in Ermita, Manila.

John Rendez, 31, also known as John Porter Jr., a rap performer and a resident of 115 10th Street corner Gilmore Avenue, Quezon City, yielded a .39 *paltik* revolver, police said. His companion Robert Regala, 42, of Paragon Building, Edsa, Mandaluyong City, was found with three grams of shabu.

Members of the Western Police District's detective trackers unit arrested them at the parking lot of the Maxim's Tea House and Restaurant on M.H. del Pilar Street at 1:45 a.m., said case investigator SPO2 Vic Noriega.

The arrest came after a parking valet reported to DTU members PO2 Francis Manago and PO3 Rodolfo Marzon that a gun was inside a black Dodge pickup (UFF-968) owned by Rendez.

Senior Insp. Danny Santos, DTU chief, said they accosted Rendez and Regala when they went out of the restaurant.

Rendez was arrested after he admitted that he owned the gun. Police said that Regala was also arrested after he was seen throwing a plastic sachet containing three grams of shabu.

Nora Aunor arrived at the DTU office at WPD headquarters on United Nations Avenue at 7:30 a.m. to see if Rendez needed anything.

Citing his lawyer's instructions, Rendez, who was wearing shades, refused to speak to reporters.

Police said Rendez claimed he was carrying the gun because someone had threatened to kill him. But he did not identify who was threatening him, police said.

SPO2 Noriega said they later traced the ownership of the pickup to action star Ian Veneracion, who allegedly lent Rendez the vehicle.

Rendez was charged for violating Presidential Decree No. 1866, and Regala for drug possession before the city prosecutor's office.

Court asked . . .

From page A25

promoting social justice and in valuing the dignity of human life.

He said the Bill of Rights also says no person shall be deprived of property without due process while the Civil Code provides that every person, in the performance of his duties, should act with justice.

But MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando yesterday told vendors: "Leave the sidewalks. I'm serious."

Fernando said this in a rare meeting with illegal vendors at the MMDA office in Makati.

About 300 vendors from Caloocan City picketed the MMDA to condemn Fernando's indiscriminate clearing of sidewalks of all obstructions.

For the first since launching his controversial campaign, Fernando invited leaders of vendors' organizations, led by Caloocan Councilor Nathanael Santiago, to discuss their demands.

But the MMDA chair remained determined to drive away illegal vendors. "I'm serious," he said. "I assure them that I will take them off the sidewalks. So they better look for other places to sell."

During the dialogue, Santiago and the vendors asked Fernando to suspend the sidewalk clearing campaign until vendors have been properly consulted and an agreement has been reached.

Amparo Solo, spokesperson of the Alyansa ng mga Manininda sa Kalookan (Alma), also asked Fernando, who was Marikina mayor for nine years, to leave at least half of the sidewalks to vendors.

Fernando said he has been hearing the same appeals and the same broken promises from vendors even when he was still a mayor.

"Sorry, but I can't give in to your demands," he told the vendors. "The more that I give in, the more that people would be discouraged to put up markets."

He asked them to occupy "many" available spaces in public and private markets so they would not obstruct traffic and pedestrians. Daily rental fees range only from P29 to P50, he said.

One woman said she and other "poor" vendors could not afford to move to markets. She appealed to Fernando to allow them to stay in the streets if only to earn for their children's schooling.

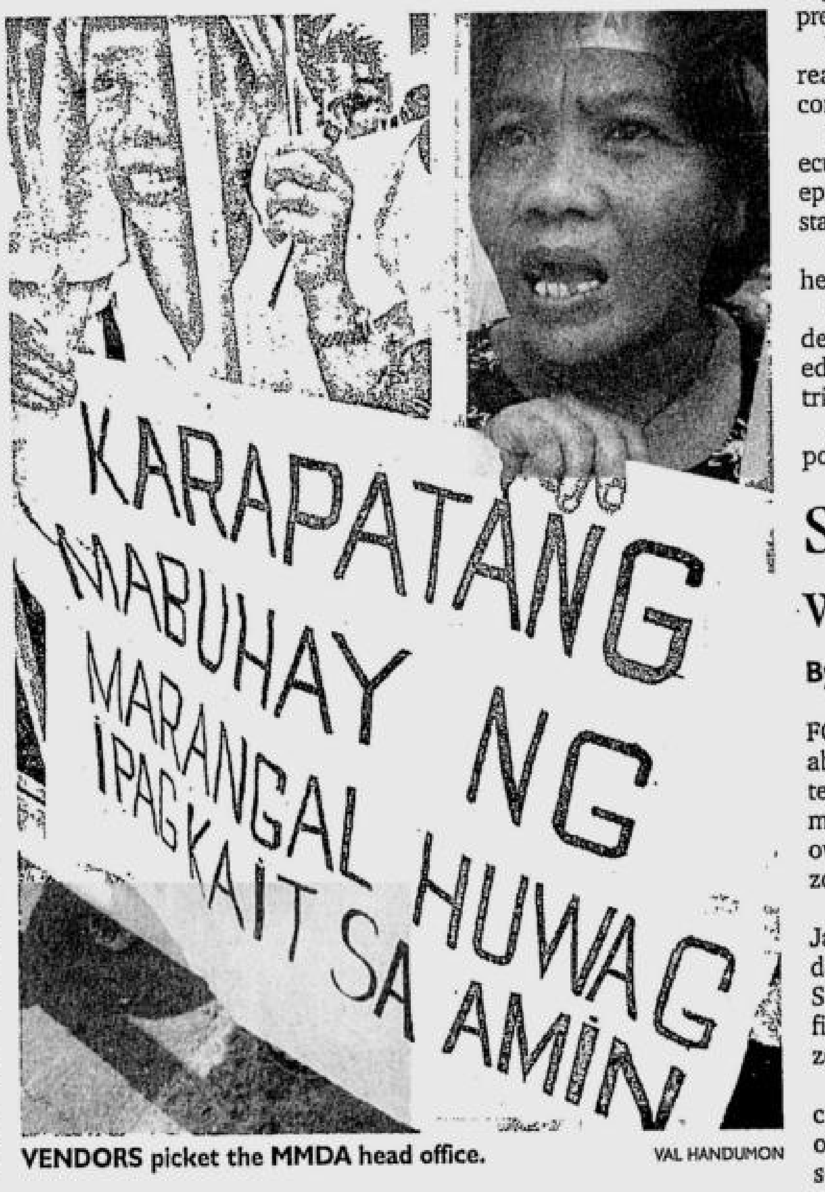
Fernando turned sarcastic and pointed to the woman's wristwatch. "Your watch costs at least P100 so don't tell me that you can't afford the rental fee," he said in Filipino.

"You're even fortunate for you have the mind of an entrepreneur," he told the vendors. "Those who live and die selling only a basket of goods are the unfortunate ones."

Fernando pointed out that he is not at all heartless in dealing with illegal vendors.

"I was born in a market," he said. "My mother was a vendor. She used to sell in a market in Quiapo. I know your sentiments but we're just trying to put order here."

The opposition is not limited to the vendors.


KARAPATANG MABUHAY NG MARANGAL HUWAG IPAGKAIT SA AMIN

VENDORS picket the MMDA head office.

VAL HANDUMON

Also yesterday, Mandaluyong Mayor Benhur Abalos rejected the use of kerosene to destroy the goods of illegal vendors.

"Each mayor has his own style (of dealing with illegal vendors)," Abalos told reporters following a meeting of the MMDA executive council.

"I won't use kerosene and I hope they (Fernando and mayors) will respect that," Abalos said. "If MMDA personnel operate in Mandaluyong, they should adopt my style."

Fernando said yesterday that mayors could implement their own strategies in ridding the sidewalks of illegal vendors. "But (spraying kerosene) is the most non-violent means," he said.

Abalos pointed out that mayors are not required to use Fernando's kerosene tactic to carry out the MMDA's clearing operations.

Abalos said he and Manila Mayor Lito Atienza have been coordinating in removing the sidewalk vendors at the Kalentong market near the boundary of Sta. Ana, Manila and Mandaluyong.

"It's just a matter of good coordination and wise cooperation," Abalos said.

Atienza himself has proposed what he claimed a "win-win" solution to the problem of illegal vending. He said the solution would organize vendors into cooperatives and provide them with uniform stalls.

Fernando yesterday slammed the proposal, saying the public would ultimately be the losers in the "win-win" solution.

"It's a win-win solution for us and for vendors, but it's the public who will be at the losing end," he said in Filipino. "We can't do anything but follow the law now."

He said this proposed solution is the reason why Divisoria in Manila has been perennially congested with garbage and illegal vendors. Often, the area is not passable to vehicles, he added.

Former TV executive, German found dead

By Alcuin Papa and Nelson Forte Flores

POLICE yesterday ruled out the possibility of foul play in the death of former television executive and director Alfred Arthur Cochran, who was found dead on Wednesday in his Antipolo home.

In Quezon City, Mirko Mueller of Germany was found dead yesterday morning in his home, police said.

A neighbor had found Cochran dead in bed at about 9 a.m. Wednesday morning in his house on Cypress Street, Barangay Mayamot.

Police said the body was already in an advance state of decomposition.

In the '70s, Cochran was a TV executive and later directed some episodes of Nora Aunor's "Superstar" television show on Channel 9.

Cochran supposedly had a bad heart. He was 60.

Mueller, of the Corinthian Gardens in Quezon City, was supposedly a consultant for Manila Electric Co.

According to initial police reports, Mueller's body was found in his garden by his maid Mena Vicenta when she reported for work at 7:30 a.m. yesterday.

Mueller had been living in the Corinthian house for the past five years, police said.

Crime scene investigators said they found a stab wound in Mueller's neck and lacerations in his face. His hands and feet were bound, and he had been beaten with a dumbbell.

According to investigator SPO1 Fedencio Basibas, whoever killed Mueller also took the victim's green Nissan vehicle (USD-346) and a VCD player.

Security guards also reported seeing the vehicle being driven out of the posh subdivision but they could not identify who were on board since the vehicle windows were heavily tinted.

Policemen were also checking reports that Mueller had gone home on Wednesday night with two men.

Sex toys were found in the crime scene, police said.

Investigators theorized that Mueller had an argument with the suspects before he was killed.

School charges 51 teachers with P32-million estafa

By Agnes E. Donato

FOR EACH getting an excess of about P150 in their salary, 51 teachers are now facing a P32-million estafa suit which the owner of a private school in Quezon City filed against them.

Jaime Torres, president of the Jaime Torres Educational Foundation Inc. and operator of the St. James College of Quezon City, filed the charge before the Quezon City prosecutor's office.

In his complaint, Torres accused the 51 faculty members of allegedly swindling the school for accepting compensation for services they did not render.

Torres claimed that last April 25, the teachers had a union meeting for the ratification of the constitution and by-laws of "The Elementary and High School Faculty Union of St. James School." The meeting, he said, lasted from 10 a.m. until 12 noon.

But in their daily time record, the teachers allegedly made it appear that they worked from 7 or 8 a.m. until 4 or 5 p.m. by punching in and then out at the said times.

Torres said the teachers received a total of P6,765.64 for this, with each of them getting an amount ranging from P110 to P180.

For that crime, the school administrator asked the teachers to pay him the P6,765.64 in actual damages, plus P20 million in moral damages, another P10 million in exemplary damages and P2 million in lawyer's fees.

Named as respondents were: Ciel Katharine Acacio, Mostula Agir, Ryan Aguinaldo, Florena Amarille, Victoria Apostol, Maliza Arcilla, Jannete Avilla, Angelito Ayala, Evangeline Belardo, Dolores Britos, Janet Buhain, Isabelita Calugay, Arllynn Caranguian, Lani Ching, Ronaldo Climaco, Luiza Cortez, Elvira Crisostomo, Cleopatra Cruz, Ethel Cuesta and Marissa Custodio.

Also accused were Milagros Benjy David, Cristina Decena, Marilou dela Cruz, Eva Durana, Nona Ebalde, Aida Fabro, Lolita Fernandez, Marites Francisco, Victor Gabato, Rodney Allan Gianan, Fernando Leosala, Gresly Livelo, Christine Manaois, Lalaine Mappala, Linda Martinez, Cynthia Miciano and Emma Monforte.

Teachers Remedios Nanawa, Ma. Theresa Navarro, Noel Vincent Ordiales, Laila Picasor, Roselyn Pilante, Trinidad Pusing, Elizabeth Ramos, Rovelyn Ramos, Lorna Sabado, Ma. Lourdes Santos, Ricardo Santos, Eduardo Teja, Liberty Togonon and Josielyn Valbuena were also included in the complaint.

Woman trader ambushed

By Alcuin Papa

A BUSINESSWOMAN was killed while her driver was seriously injured when armed men tried to rob them in Quezon City on Wednesday.

Police said Margarita Acuna, 34, of Barangay Mariana, Quezon City, died while undergoing treatment at the St. Luke's Hospital. Her driver, Michael Yepes, 21, of Caloocan City, is now recuperating in the same hospital.

According to investigators, Acuna went to a bank to withdraw P100,000 for her adopted mother Caridad.

While Acuna was on her way back home, with Yepes driving her Isuzu pick-up (UJN-860), armed men on board a motorcycle pulled up alongside Acuna's vehicle and shot its tires at 2:45 p.m. at the corner of Victoria Avenue and 9th Street.

The armed men got off the motorcyle, pointed their guns at Acuna and ordered her to surrender the money.

When Acuna resisted, the men started to fire at the pickup. Acuna was hit in the left thigh while Yepes was hit in the body, police said.

The suspects decided to leave without taking the money, investigators said.

Passers-by brought the victims to the hospital where Acuna suffered a heart attack while she was being treated, police said.

MARK THESE DATES!
August 31 - September 8, 2002
EVERYONE IS INVITED TO VISIT COUNTRY'S BIGGEST BOOK EVENT OF THE YEAR!
10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. • Megatrade Hall, 5th Level, Building B, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City
THE PHILIPPINE BOOKFAIR
Schedule of Special Events

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2002

4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M./Function Rm. B
Opening Ceremonies/Ribbon Cutting

6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M./Function Rm. B
"Gintong Aklat Awards"
Book Development Association of the Phils.

CHECK OUT THE INQUIRER ON AUGUST 31 FOR SCHEDULE OF THE PHILIPPINE BOOKFAIR FROM SEPTEMBER 1 TO 8.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2002

12:00 NN - 5:00 P.M./Function Rms. A & B
"A Few To Inspire The Many:
The Teacher as a Role Model:
An inspirational talk from fellow teachers who recently won Int'l. awards and chose to stay and teach in the Phils."
Diwa Learning Systems Inc.

5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M./Function Rm. A
Book Launching
"Kuwentong Siyudad"
Ateneo de Manila University Press

6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M./Function Rm. B
"Power Mark Privilege Card Launch"
OMF Literature, Inc.

Alma: I'm still Joey's wife

By Marinel R. Cruz

"THAT'S already finished. They have talked about it many times already, anyway. They can do whatever they want. As far as I'm concerned, I'm still Joey's wife and he is still the father of my children."

That was what Alma Moreno had to say about the widely reported romance involving her husband, Parañaque City Mayor Joey Marquez, and Kris Aquino, daughter of former President Cory Aquino.

The affair and her encounter with Kris on August 9 at the Asian Hospital in Muntinlupa City, where Joey was then confined for an angiogram, left scars on the 43-year-old actress.

"The pain is unbearable," she said. "I cry almost every night."

Moreno said she has stopped watching television and reading the news. She added she has never stopped praying and has left everything in God's hands.

"I thank Him because I'm feeling okay now, though I still get headaches from the stress," she said. "I'm told by my doctor not to tire myself too much."

Moreno is suffering from multiple sclerosis.

The actress has returned to their house on Tahanan Village in Parañaque after she and Joey broke up early this year. The couple's children—Yeoj, Win-win, Vittorio Joey and Em-em—are staying with Moreno.

"I did this because I want my kids to have a normal life," she said, the pain evident in her voice.

She said that as a mother, she feels the heartaches of her children, even if they seldom talk to her about it.

"Whenever they are in school, I know they hear things from their classmates," Moreno said. "I just tell them to study hard and remind them that no matter what happens, their parents still love them."

Last March, Marquez filed for the annulment of his 12-year marriage with Moreno. His reason, Moreno is psychologically incapable of performing her marital obligations because of her lavish spending and alleged extramarital affair.

Moreno was rumored to have had an affair with Julian Say, a Cebu City-based executive and disc jockey of the Nation Broadcasting Corp., but she had denied this.

Moreno is under instruction from her lawyer, Ellen Veza, to refrain from talking about the case and to simply leave it to the court.

"I really don't want to talk about the issue anymore," Moreno said. "I don't want to hear people say I'm merely seeking sympathy. What they are hearing are all coming from Joey's camp."

During the preliminary hearing of their annulment case on Aug. 2, Moreno made a scene in the fiscal's office, according to Marquez. He said Moreno had been violent and "threatened to do a lot of things"

Asked to comment about the incident, Moreno's lawyer said the conference was a closed-door hearing. "Whatever transpired during that meeting was meant to be confined within the four walls of the judge's chamber," Veza said. "We are not supposed to publicly discuss it. We don't understand why Joey's camp is talking about it."

"I think you should ask them why they keep on talking about it," Moreno said.

Moreno said she is still performing her duties as the mayor's wife in Parañaque, this despite the annulment proceedings.

"I'm still first lady of Parañaque," Moreno told the INQUIRER in an exclusive interview Monday at the Peninsula Hotel in Makati.

She is now busy raising funds for various foundations—the Alma Moreno Para sa Mamamayan Foundation and the Libreng Libing Foundation—to benefit residents of Parañaque.

"I've been doing this for years," she said. "I also produce shows to solicit funds for my projects."

The actress said there are offers for her to make movies again, and has been asked to play a role in a telenovela. "I'm still considering it," she said. "My life is a telenovela in itself. I want to have a break from it all. What I want is to do comedy."

ALMA Moreno

'Crossover Presents' jazz stars

105.1 Crossover mounts another monumental and electrifying year-end concert spectacle as it brings to Manila two of the finest names in the smooth jazz concert circuit.

SHOWS

Bobby Caldwell and Phil Perry, both prolific singers and songwriters in the pop-jazz genre, will be featured in a back-to-back concert at the Araneta Coliseum, Oct. 19 (Saturday), 8 p.m.

Caldwell's biggest hit and most popular anthem, "What You Won't Do for Love," has undergone more than 70 remakes and samples, including the more recent version recorded by the popular boyband, Go West.

Caldwell also wrote "Next Time I Fall," popularized by Peter Cetera and Amy Grant; "Heart of Mine," recorded by Boz Scaggs, as well as a string of chart-busting tunes for such big name performers as rap artist Tupac Shakur, Eryka Badu, Michael Bolton, Vanessa Williams, the Commodores, Neil Diamond, Brenda Russell, Al Jarreau, jazz saxophonists Richard Elliott and Dave Koz, and Laura Fygi.

For his part, Phil Perry burst into the Los Angeles music scene as a first-rate background vocalist and session singer, fronting for jazz guitar virtuoso Lee Ritenour, and subsequently, doing studio dates with James Ingram, Quincy Jones, composer Michel Colombier, Sergio Mendes, George Duke, Barbra Streisand and Patti Labelle.

Perry sang the title theme from the movie "Arthur II" and eventually launched his solo career as he signed up with Capitol Records for his first two albums: "Heart of the Man" (1991) and "Pure Pleasure" (1994).

Tickets to the special concert are available at the Crossover office at 731-1667 or 0917-832-1052, Araneta Coliseum Ticketron, SM Ticketnet at 911-5555.

For 24-hour ticket reservation and delivery, call 844-2947 or 844-8159.

Final weekend run

CATCH the last three performances of "Illusione... Encore," Aug. 30 and 31 (8 .p.m.), and Sept. 1 (4 p.m.) at Star Theater CCP Complex (beside Star City).

The musical extravaganza is a grand razzmatazz of scintillating production numbers featuring top international stars such as Barbra Streisand, Liza Minneli, Madonna, Mariah Carey, Whitney Houston, Janet Jackson, Cher and many more, plus the country's Divine Diva Zsa Zsa Padilla.

Also performing are famed stylist James Cooper as Diana Ross and Carol Channing, Douglas Nierras as Odette in a hilarious rendition of "Swan Lake" and Arnell Ignacio in the "lead role" as the modern-day gay who tells the story behind "Illusione... Encore."

LIVE IN MANILA. Bobby Caldwell (left) and Phil Perry.

CA allows ABS-CBN to use Filscap songs—for a price

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE COURT of Appeals on Wednesday affirmed its earlier ruling to allow ABS-CBN to use four original Filipino songs as theme music for four of the station's top-rating programs, but it would not let the network giant off the hook.

In a 19-page decision, the CA's Eighth division lifted the 20-day restraining order a Quezon City court issued to stop ABS-CBN from using the original Filipino compositions, but it refused to dismiss the suit.

The songs "Pangako Sa Iyo," "Hanggang Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan," "Sa Puso Ko'y Iingatan Ka," and "Maalaala Mo Kaya," are at the heart of a copyright suit which the Filipino Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Inc. (Filscap) filed on behalf of its members.

CA Associate Justice Ruben Reyes penned the latest order, with the concurrence of Associate Justices Renato Dacudao and Amelita Tolentino.

Although the appeals court granted that the TRO dated June 24, 2002 would be set aside, "the prayer for the dismissal of Filscap's complaint on the grounds of prematurity and insufficient docket fees is denied."

The CA then ordered the Quezon City regional trial court to try the case filed against ABS-CBN, but "without the provisional remedy of a restraining order or preliminary injunction."

It also upheld the jurisdiction of the RTC over the case, contrary to ABS-CBN's claim that only the Intellectual Property Office could rule on it.

On June 26, the same CA division issued a 60-day TRO, lifting the 20-day TRO which Quezon City Judge Reynaldo Daway issued on June 24, based on Filscap's petition for injunction with damages.

Filscap wants the TV network to pay P24 million in back royalties for illegally using the four songs.

Filscap holds all performing rights in the copyrighted musical works of its members, which number about 800.

In his order, Daway also prevented the television giant from using the songs as titles for the TV shows "until the application or motion for the issuance of a writ of preliminary injunction is heard or resolved."

When it lifted Daway's 20-day TRO on June 26, the CA argued that ABS-CBN "stands to lose millions of television viewers ... if their theme songs are discontinued from being played."

However, the CA noted that "the injury being claimed by private respondent is not irreparable, but determinable in amount."

It also stressed that a similar case is still pending with the Intellectual Property Office.

"In order that the issues raised in this petition may not be rendered moot and academic, respondents are temporarily ordered to refrain from enforcing the assailed RTC order," said the CA.

Originally, Filscap wants the TV network to pay P10 million a year in royalties. Later, it lowered its demand to P4 million a year.

But ABS-CBN refused to agree to Filscap's demands, prompting the latter to take the matter to court.

A smart...

From page A29

isfy the more typical fans of the spy thriller genre.

The moment Bourne steps into Zurich to confront the shadows of his past, the movie steps into high gear and never lets up. Bourne discovers a facility for several languages, deadly martial arts skills and a host of other superhuman talents, which prove quite useful when evading the people who are out to kill him (for what reason he's not quite sure).

There are several white-knuckle highlights, including a car chase through the crowded streets of Paris that would make anyone cringe, and Bourne's one-on-one encounters with gifted assassins.

Character-driven

But ultimately, explosions, fights, shootouts and car chases are not what make this film stand out from its contemporaries. What makes it stand out are convincing characters, their motivations, and a decent story without plot contrivances.

It is very rare that one will see an action film were the plot flows because of the way the characters react to particular situations. Filmmakers can throw almost anything into movies nowadays, and most of the time they do, suffusing the screen with special effect bonanzas, gratuitous violence, copious sex and nonstop profanity. But often, what they try to make up in form, they lack in substance.

"The Bourne Identity" proves how smart spy thrillers can be and how dumb recent action films are because it is able to keep the suspense at full throttle without devolving into a series of mindless action sequences and other excesses.

Sharp and funny

The film's sense of atmosphere is very strong, recalling the noir efforts dating back to Alfred Hitchcock. For most of its running time the film is shot in muted colors, the better to impress upon the audience the bleakness of Bourne's situation. Director Doug Liman ("Swingers") favors long, fluid camera movements that emphasize the action and in Bourne's case, his sense of impending assaults. No disrespect to the late Robert Ludlum, but I feel that Liman, with the help of writers Tony Gilroy and W. Blake Herron, have been able to come up with an adaptation that in many respects is more absorbing and taut than the source novel.

The lines are realistic, sharp and occasionally bitingly funny (nobody actually talks the way Ludlum writes his dialogue) and the writers throw away much of the Cold War baggage of the book, including Bourne's tiff with [illegible] that [illegible] terrorist Carlos the Jackal.

Believable

Damon proves quite at home in the role of action hero. Acting-wise, he reminds me somewhat of Harrison Ford who evokes the fears and dilemmas of a good man caught in a spiral of events he's not totally in control of. But Damon is much younger, buffer and more agile. He's utterly believable and electric in fight sequences (using the Filipino stick and *mano-a-mano* martial arts known as kali developed by Filipino Dan Inosanto, the film's fight choreographer) as well as when he has to handle high-powered weapons in shootouts against his pursuers.

An essential subplot is the relationship Bourne establishes with Marie (portrayed by the charismatic Franka Potente), an out-of-luck German girl he bribes to drive him out of trouble and into Paris. Potente is definitely destined for bigger roles after this film. Her acting seems unfettered by conventions and she always brings something onscreen even in the more perfunctory scenes. She and Damon wonderfully capture the rapport between two outcasts who've finally found an ally in each other and their singular smooch scene is subtle but very sexy.

Fascinating

They're ably supported by dependable actors like Chris Cooper as Bourne's scowling CIA supervisor, Brian Cox as his beleaguered bureaucratic boss, Clive Owen as a cold-blooded assassin, and even Julia Stiles, much unused in the film playing a minor CIA functionary.

It's fascinating to think about it, the prospect of waking up one day without knowing who you are or where you come from, finding yourself alone and without a name. I guess it would be tragic. But if I could speak fluent French, German and Italian and kick several butts at the same time without breaking into a sweat, who knows? It might not be so bad.

ALLIES Franka Potente and Damon.

Ogie Alcacid set . . .

From page A28

There was also a video presentation of Pantene's past and present TV commercials.

Procter and Gamble assistant brand manager **Romana Chuacaedo**, who handles the Pantene account, said that a Pantene mall tour in Metro Manila and Cebu also highlight the "Shine" campaign. The tour kicked off with a fashion show last Aug. 17 at Rockwell's Power Plant Mall.

"Consumers will get a chance to experience Pantene's brand of shine through hair shampooing and makeovers," Romana said.

Lifestyle show rates high

MY FRIEND, **Anjie Ureta**, is beaming with pride after her newest show, "Coffee Talk," recently ranked a commendable 16 in a list of 70 highly esteemed news and current affairs programs.

The weekly talk-magazine hosted by **Cheri Mercado** on the ABS-CBN News Channel (ANC), is fast becoming a weekend staple for the young viewing market, according to Anjie, "Coffee Talk" executive producer.

"We're ecstatic," says Cheri. "It's a very encouraging indication that people are starting to notice the show. In fact, we've met quite a number of individuals who claim they haven't missed an episode. That really inspires us to keep on working harder to improve the show."

Anjie believes "Coffee Talk" has found a niche in the innovative field of lifestyle news.

"ANC is respected for its role as an all-news and business channel, so with the impressive performance of 'Coffee Talk' on it first season, we'd like to believe we've earned our place among the cable network's distinguished roster of news and current affairs shows. That also means we have to make sure we don't disappoint our viewers."

Anjie is also the EP behind other shows such as "Off the Record" (hosted by Prof. **Randy David** and lawyer **Katrina Legarda**), "Isyu" (with **Korina Sanchez** and **Cito Beltran**) and "By Demand" (with Katrina Legarda on ANC). Anjie recently gave up the telemagazine, "F," hosted by the triumvirate of **Angel Aquino, Cher Calvin** and **Daphne Oseña**.

The feedback that "Coffee Talk" has been getting after every episode is simply overwhelming. After the program featured last weekend former international model **Gemith Gemparo**, who's now a commercial pilot for Philippine Airlines, Gemith wrote "Coffee Talk" to say that more young women have become interested in aviation.

Gemith, now a first officer, said, "PAL has now accepted eight new female students in our flight school. This has never happened before in the history of our company. I believe this avenue which you have provided through your show has become a great tool and opportunity to inspire young women to enter the field of aviation."

This weekend, "Coffee Talk" chills out with hip restaurateur **DJ Montano**, owner of the trendy Indian restaurant Raj and today's hottest party place, Acquario Liquid Lounge, both in Malate.

Cheri also goes one-on-one on the hard court with basketball lass **Jannelle So**, who shares her secrets in keeping score with the fast-paced world of sportscasting.

"Coffee Talk" airs 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays over ANC.

"SHINE." Past and present Pantene models during the recent media launch.

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Ogie Alcacid set to rock the Big Dome

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

"ANXIOUS, not nervous, but very excited."

This is how singer-songwriter **Ogie Alcasid** described how he feels about his forthcoming major concert, "O.A. sa Hits," on Oct. 4 at the Araneta Coliseum.

Ogie has performed in big concert venues in the past. He did Folk Arts Theater, the PICC and even the Big Dome (but with other artists).

"Araneta is not a new territory for me," Ogie says. "I know how it feels to be on that stage. But this is the first time that I'm doing Araneta alone. I've been waiting for this for a long time. I'm having mixed feelings. You know you can do it, but since it's not done yet, you get anxious about the outcome."

"O.A. sa Hits" at Araneta brings Ogie back to the live performing arena.

"I feel I had to reestablish myself as a performer after being on TV for a long while, doing movies and writing songs," Ogie explains. "When I performed at the Big Dome with Freestyle and **Aiza Seguerra** last year, I heard fans screaming. Then people kept on telling me, you're ready for Araneta."

He bided his time, though. "I had to wait for a couple of more hits," he says.

His original songs, which have been revived as themes of recent box-office hit movies or smash TV series (like the widely followed GMA 7 soap, "Kung Mawawala Ka"), plus the success of his latest album, "A Better Man," which is his debut for Viva Records, prepared Ogie for the big salvo.

"A Better Man" spawned the hit singles "Ikaw Sana" and "Hanggang Ngayon," which is a duet with **Regine Velasquez**. The latest single culled from the album is "Sana Bukas Mahal Mo na Ako."

ALCASID. "Anxious but very excited."

"The signs are here," Ogie maintains. "Viva also convinced me that the time is perfect, based on the sales of the album. I know I have their support and that bolstered my confidence."

Ogie assures the audience he will also perform all his best sellers during the concert. His stirring ballads include such hits as "Nandito Ako," "Bakit Ngayon Ka Lang," "Mahal Kita, Walang Iba," "Pangako," "Sa Kanya" and "Kailangan Ko'y Ikaw."

He also recorded bouncy ditties like "Peksman" and "Dito sa Puso Ko."

Ogie, however, laments that his wife **Michelle van Eimereen**, won't be around when he mounts the Big Dome stage for "O.A. sa Hits." Michelle is due to give birth to their second baby, another girl, in Australia next month.

Ogie left for Sydney last Aug. 20 to be with his wife and their five-year-old daughter, **Leila.** But he is expected to return to the country middle of September to prepare for his major concert.

Joining him onstage at the Big Dome is a stellar lineup of guests led by Regine Velasquez, with Side A and Freestyle. For the production numbers, Ogie will be joined by the Hotlegs Dancers and the upcoming boy group Casanova. Musical direction is by **Mark Lopez**, with stage direction by **Louie Ignacio**.

Shampoo showcase

PROCTER and Gamble left no room for modesty when it recently hosted a grand and glittering media launch for its latest campaign, "Pantene Shine," at the Poolside of Mandarin Oriental Manila.

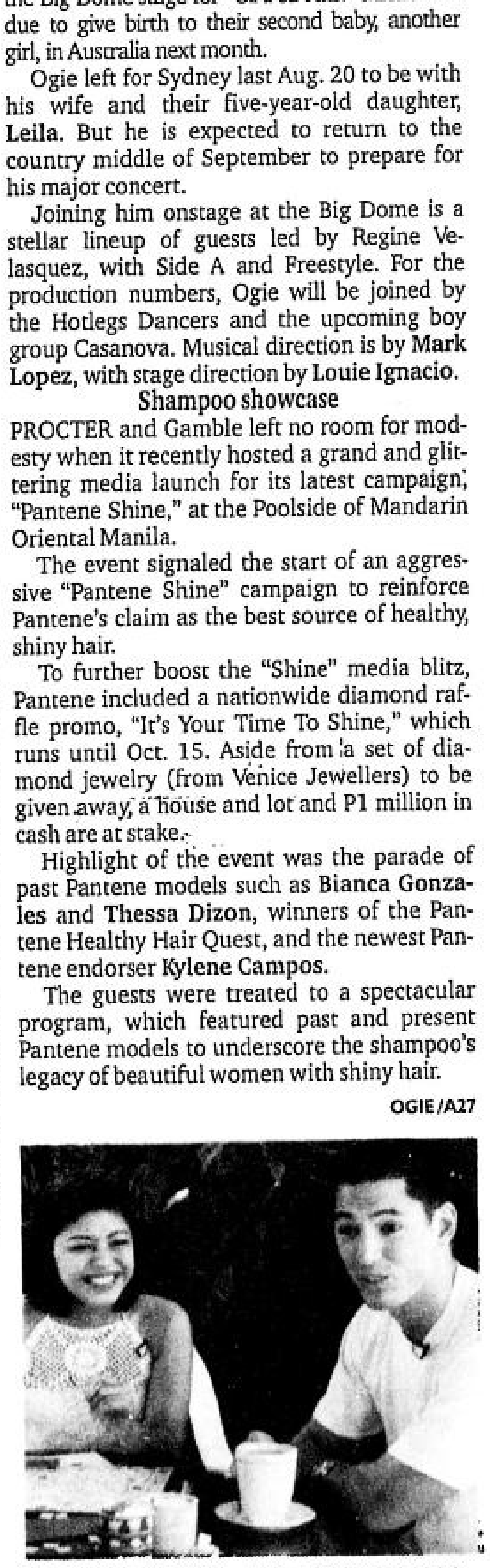
The event signaled the start of an aggressive "Pantene Shine" campaign to reinforce Pantene's claim as the best source of healthy, shiny hair.

To further boost the "Shine" media blitz, Pantene included a nationwide diamond raffle promo, "It's Your Time To Shine," which runs until Oct. 15. Aside from a set of diamond jewelry (from Venice Jewellers) to be given away, a house and lot and P1 million in cash are at stake.

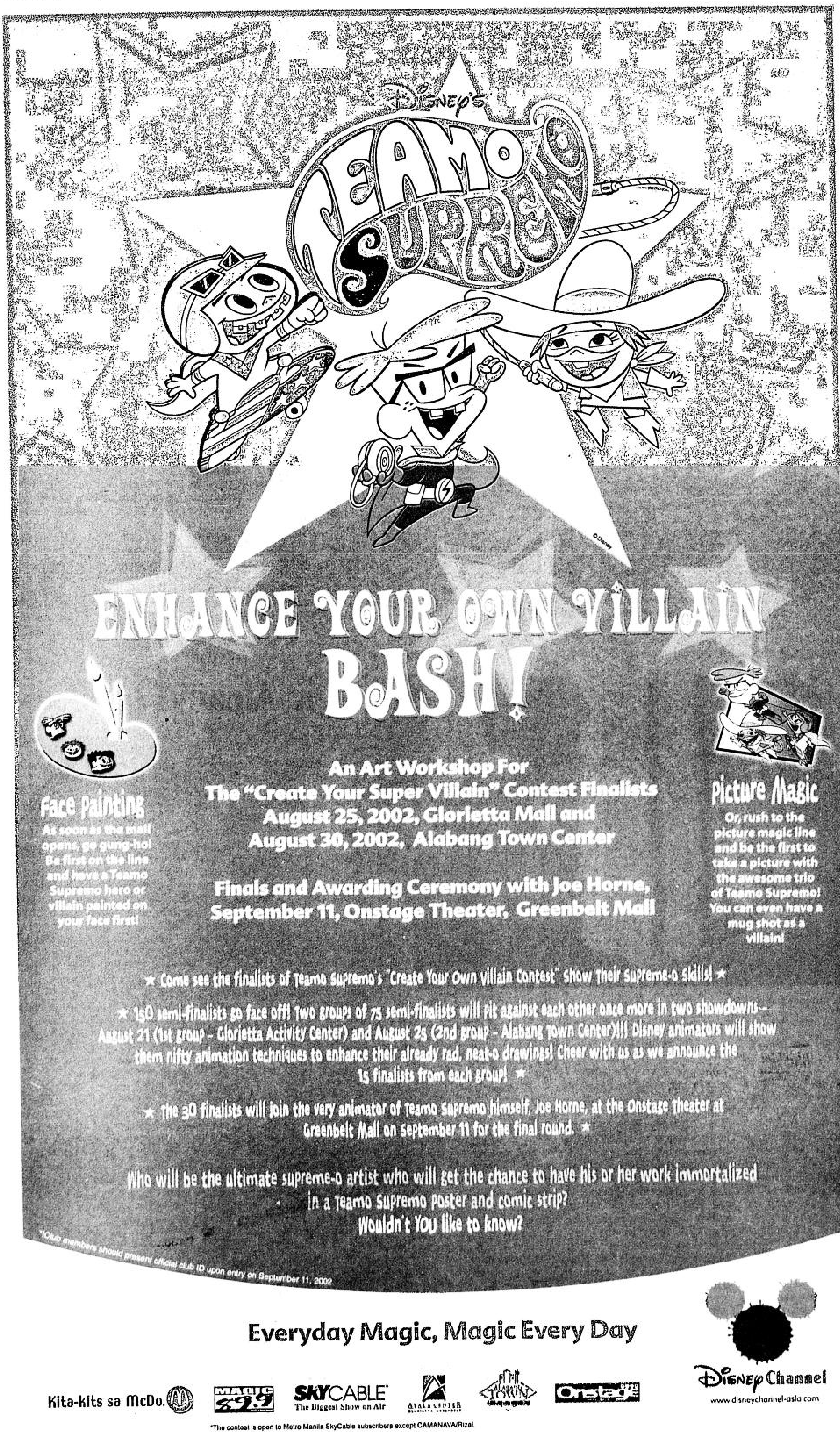
Highlight of the event was the parade of past Pantene models such as **Bianca Gonzales** and **Thessa Dizon**, winners of the Pantene Healthy Hair Quest, and the newest Pantene endorser **Kylene Campos**.

The guests were treated to a spectacular program, which featured past and present Pantene models to underscore the shampoo's legacy of beautiful women with shiny hair.

OGIE/A27



"COFFEE TALK." Host Cheri Mercado with guest Marc Nelson.



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★ The 30 finalists will join the very animator of Teamo Supremo himself, Joe Horne, at the Onstage Theater at Greenbelt Mall on September 11 for the final round. ★

Who will be the ultimate supreme-o artist who will get the chance to have his or her work immortalized in a Teamo Supremo poster and comic strip?
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'THE BOURNE IDENTITY'

A smart spy thriller

By Ruben M. Cruz Jr.

REVIEW

I ONCE heard it said that amnesiacs are like characters from an Albert Camus novel, burdened by the weight and absurdity of their existence.

Depending on who you've been, I reckon the past is either a terrible inconvenience or a most welcome consolation. For most of us, it is perhaps both. But for amnesiacs who have no past, it is neither. They have only the present, and the present, it is said, can be unbearable without a past to define it.

Such is the dilemma that makes "The Bourne Identity" utterly engaging. Rescued by fishermen from a watery grave, Jason Bourne (Matt Damon) doesn't know who he is or where he's from. He lives in a void, haunted by a past he cannot remember and a future that is just as vague.

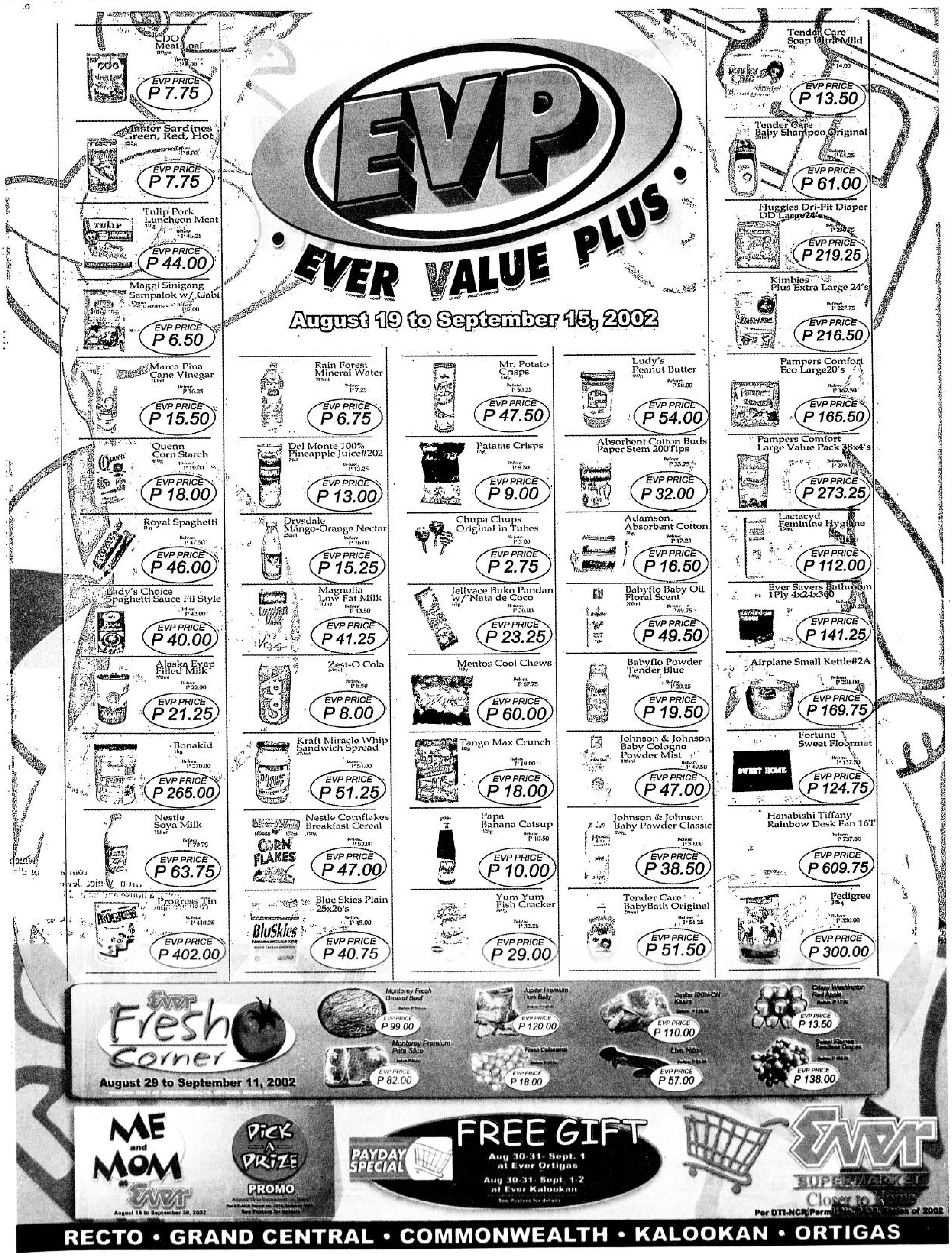
The thought of an existence so desolate and so solitary at once creates a foundation of sympathy for Bourne's character that is impossible to demolish. Even when the only clues to his identity—the bullets lodged in his back and an electronic patch with an account number for a safety deposit box implanted in his hip-reveal a less noble character, we cannot turn away from a person who deserves a chance to be someone again, unencumbered and anchored at the same time by his historical absence. Amnesia or no amnesia, we all have the same yearning for redemption.

Action-packed

These musings are not what usually drive action films and make them watchable and indeed, "The Bourne Identity" is more than a nowhere man's search for his true identity. The film is packed with enough action to sat-

A SMART/ A27

MATT DAMON is believeable as an action hero.



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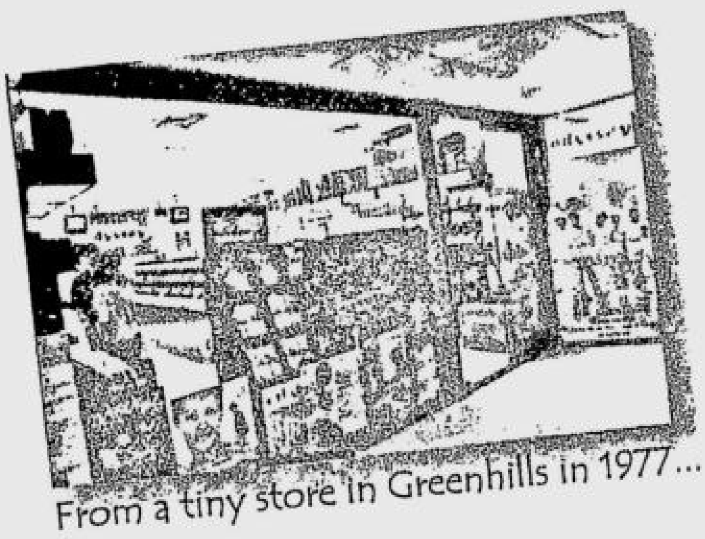

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Editor **Louie C. Camino**

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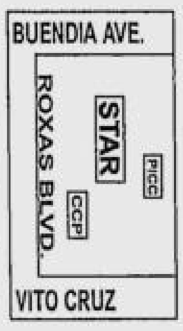

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US TV to feature RP, says Gordon

TOURISM Secretary Richard Gordon recently met with Peter Greenburg, travel editor of NBC's "Today" show in a heavy day-long schedule in New York, that was kicked off by a power breakfast hosted by Loida Nicholas Lewis, CEO of Beatrice Corp.

Gordon, who has established close ties with Greenburg in his post Subic days, held exploratory talks with the NBC travel editor on a host of topics that could be featured either on the "Today" show, America's leading morning news program, or on the Discovery or History Channel.

Among the topics that they discussed included more adventure travel like water rafting, unique activities not normally found in a hotel brochure like going on a wild boar hunt; factory tours like watching how a jeepney is made; and unusual tours like a visit to the Hobbit House in Malate.

Greenburg also discovered that he had done a Royal Tours segment in the Discovery Channel on world leaders led by HRH King Hussein of Jordan, King Juan Carlos of Spain and the UK's Prince Andrew who acted as tour guides to their countries.

Greenburg told Gordon that it would be wonderful if Pres. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo could take him to a tour of her country as well.

Gordon also met up with Wayne Lee of CBS to discuss the possibility of staging a future segment of the survivors in the Philippines, and with freelance writer Harry Griffin.

The Tourism Secretary is also scheduled to meet with Hollywood film producers in Los Angeles on the possibility of doing their location shootings in the Philippines.

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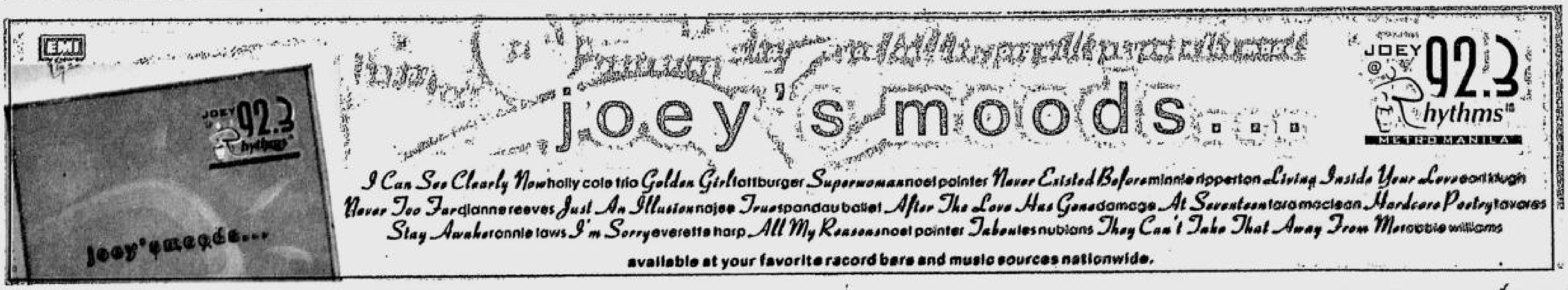
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2960 Series of 2002



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BUSINESS

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BSP keeps interest rates unchanged

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE POLICY-MAKING Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas yesterday decided to maintain benchmark overnight interest rates at current levels, citing low inflation and excess capacity in the economy.

However, it said it would continue to monitor the inflationary pressure from the El Niño drought phenomenon, which could ravage crop production in the fourth quarter, as well as movements in the peso and world crude oil prices.

The overnight borrowing rate is at a decade low of 7 percent while the lending rate is at 9.25 percent. It has been more than five months since the BSP last adjusted its policy rates.

"The Monetary Board is of the view that the current monetary policy stance is appropriately supportive of the economy's growth and price stability objectives," the BSP said in a statement.

The government announced yesterday that its economy grew at its fastest pace in five years in the second quarter of 2002, outpacing most countries in the region.

Its gross domestic product grew 4.5 percent in the second quarter from a year earlier, sharply higher than government and market predictions of about 3.9 percent.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said in a statement that the bank expected inflation to remain tame for the rest of the year because of favorable food supply conditions and a recent downward adjustment in power costs.

The bank also said domestic liquidity grew 7.3 percent in July against 5.1 percent growth in June, indicating excess supply of cash in the system.

On the other hand, the BSP said there were signs suggesting a gradual pick-up in economic activity, as shown particularly by the steady growth in manufacturing output as well as increases in energy sales by the country's largest power distributor, Manila Electric Co.

"The presence of spare capacity indicates a generally subdued inflation picture in the near term," the statement said.

Buenaventura earlier said he expected annual inflation in August to range from 2.4 to 2.6 percent from 2.6 percent in July, despite slight increases in local petroleum prices early this month and the rise in cooking gas prices.

With a report from Reuters

Court stops registration of used cars

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE PHILIPPINE Automotive Association (PAA)—the country's biggest group of automotive franchise dealers—has successfully obtained a temporary restraining order (TRO) barring the Land Transportation Office (LTO) from further registering used, right-hand drive (RHD) vehicle imports at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

The dealers were forced to take legal action against the Subic importers after Trade Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II failed to live up to his promise made last year to put the brakes on the trade that has been undermining the automotive industry.

A government source said the PAA filed a court case with the Olongapo Regional Trial Court to stop the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) from bringing in second-hand, RHD vehicles into the freeport for sale to the domestic market.

The Olongapo RTC yesterday granted PAA a three-day TRO against the LTO and it was confident it could be extended to the maximum 20 days. PAA is aiming to get a permanent injunction while the court was deciding the legality of SBMA's second-hand imports.

The source said the PAA contested the le-

COURT/ B4

INDICATORS

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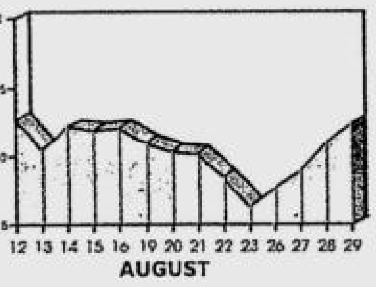

GRAPHS BY ROBERT ANDRES

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As of 5 p.m., Aug. 29, 2002

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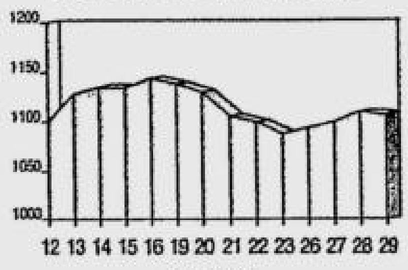
Aug. 29, 2002

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B4)

STOCK MARKET

Shares end down

SHARES ended lower yesterday as concern over the government's fiscal woes outweighed positive second-quarter economic data, traders said.

The 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index ended down 3.15 points, or 0.3 percent, to 1105.96, after Wednesday's 0.9-percent gain.

Decliners led gainers 21 to 20, while 38 issues were unchanged.

Blue chip PLDT was among the most actively traded stocks, falling P5, or 1.7 percent, to P292.50 on profit taking, having gained 5.3 percent since the start of the week.

The market staged a mild rally early in the session after the government reported that the country's gross domestic product expanded

SHARES/ B4

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Inflation in August rose slightly, Canlas says

By Doris C. Dumlao

INFLATION in August probably stood at between 2.6 and 2.8 percent year-on-year, slightly higher than the 2.6-percent price increase in July, Economic Planning Secretary Dante Canlas said yesterday.

Canlas, speaking to reporters at the announcement of the country's second-quarter gross domestic product data, said should inflation come in at the higher end of the projected range, it would be because of rain, which would hamper food distribution and disrupt farm production.

Inflation is the rate at which the general level of prices for goods and services is rising and, subsequently, purchasing power is falling.

As inflation rises, every peso will buy a smaller percentage of a good. For example, if the inflation rate is 2 percent, then a P1 pack of gum will cost P1.02 in a year.

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura said Wednesday that he saw the August inflation rate at 2.4 to 2.6 percent year-on-year, as stable food prices, low interest rates and a stable exchange rate kept prices in check.

The government's inflation target for 2002 is 4.5 to 5.5 percent.

Canlas said the consumer price index would slightly rise, if not stabilize, at 2.6 percent, a 30-month low recorded in July.

"There were some episodes of increases in food prices in August, but these were not long-lasting," Canlas said.

The higher end of 2.8 percent in the projected range, according to Canlas, has already taken into account pressures on food prices.

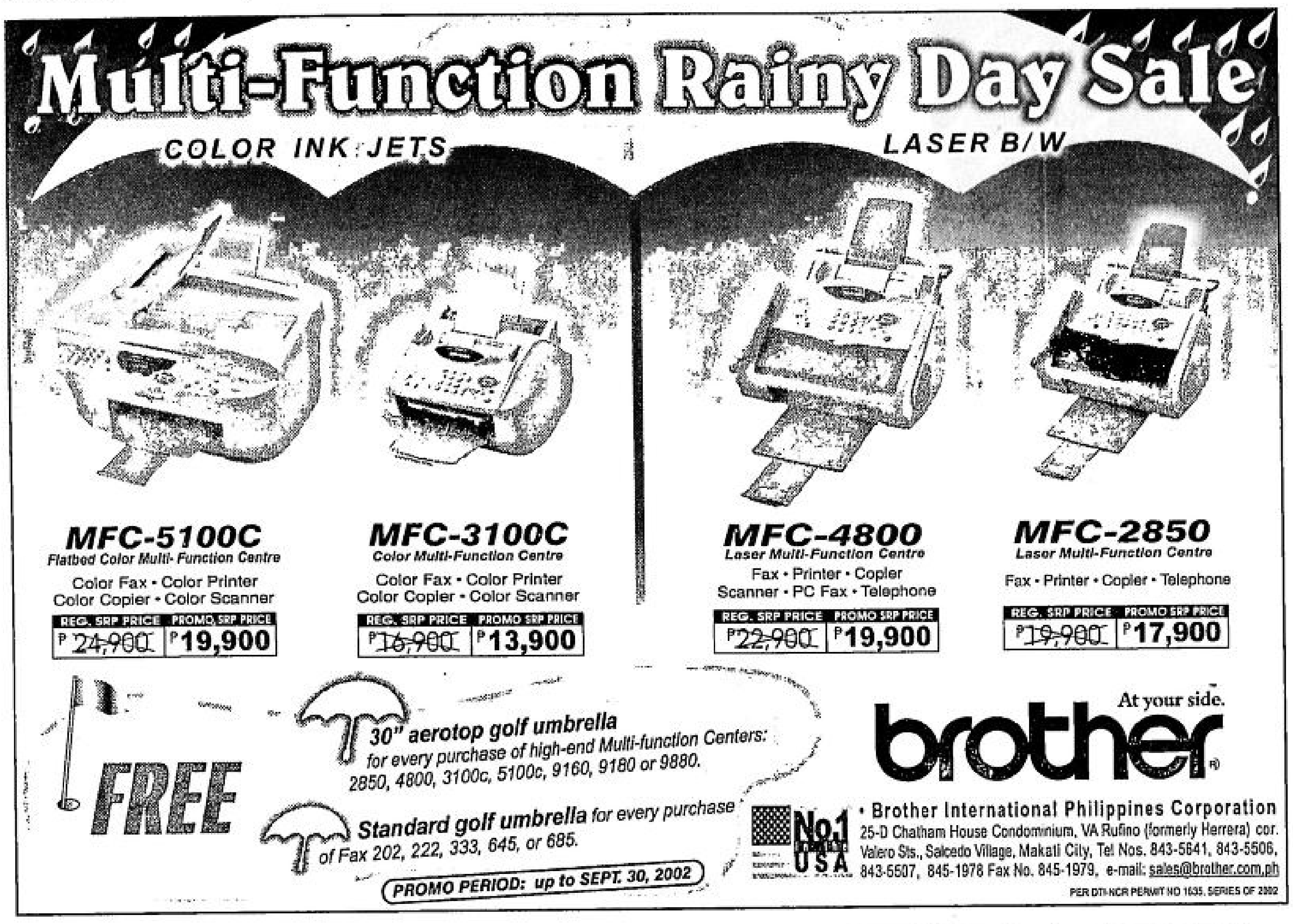
In July, the inflation rate slid to 2.6 from 3 percent in June, as a slowdown in the prices of fuel and electricity offset disruptions in supplies of certain food products caused by four typhoons.

Any possible increase in food prices would remain minimal even in August, Canlas said.

He also stressed that the government had yet to revise the official 4.5- to 5.5-percent inflation target for the full year even if the average since the start of the year had been below this range.

"The central bank would like to keep some flexibility in its monetary management," he said.

The country's average inflation rate since the start of the year to July now stood at 3.4 percent, which economic officials and analysts said should support a continued regime of low interest rates.



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PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO 1635, SERIES OF 2002

Too early for open skies, local, foreign experts say

By Abigail L. Ho

IT IS too early for the Philippines to adopt an open skies policy, as there is still a need to develop the country's flag carriers, according to local and international aviation experts.

Chinese University of Hong Kong graduate programs director Cheung-kwok Law said in a research paper that the country's flag carriers should first have the capacity to compete with the world's biggest airlines before the government thinks of adopting an open skies policy.

"Given the trend of globalization, it is necessary for the government to consider policies to improve the competitiveness of the national airline. Even though the current bilateral negotiation framework may fend off international competition for some time, it is vital for the national airline to be able to stand on its own under international competition," Cheung-kwok said in his paper.

Pioneer flag carrier Philippine Airlines Inc. agreed with Law's assessment, saying the local aviation industry needed at least another 10 years to fully mature and compete with rivals abroad.

In a news briefing after PAL's stockholders' meeting yesterday, PAL president Avelino Zapanta said both PAL and Cebu Pacific Air of retail tycoon John Gokongwei Jr. were not in a position to compete with airlines that had wider-bodied aircraft and bigger dole-outs from their governments.

"PAL is under receivership, while Cebu Pacific is still on the infancy stages of its international flights. Also, US airlines are given $15 billion worth of state aids and insurance guarantees, while PAL spends $32 million a year for insurance," he said.

According to an aviation industry study by the De La Salle University Graduate School of Business, the impact of an open skies regime had yet to be fully studied but, at this point, several short- and medium-term disadvantages could already be seen.

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DA presses creation of corn administration

By Christine A. Gaylican

THE DEPARTMENT of Agriculture is pushing for the creation of a "Philippine Corn Administration" that will oversee the local corn industry.

In an interview yesterday, Assistant Agriculture Secretary Segfredo Serrano said agriculture officials had already asked President Macapagal-Arroyo to sign an administrative order creating a new office under the agriculture department.

Serrano stressed that corn was as important to meeting the country's food requirements as rice.

He conceded, however, that a key issue likely to hinder the creation of a corn agency would be where to get the money to bankroll it.

The government is currently trying to cut spending and improve tax collections to keep its budget deficit within manageable levels. It has already exceeded its deficit target of P130 billion in the seven months to July.

Corn farmers, meanwhile, are asking the agriculture department and the National Food Authority to establish a buying price ceiling for their produce to prevent farm gate prices from falling too low.

Setting a "price trigger" or a buying price ceiling of at least P7 per kilo for corn would help local farmers cope with cheap corn substitutes from sources abroad and with high production costs, Philippine Maize Federation chair Roderico Bioco said.

Gov't steps up biotech research

THE GOVERNMENT has stepped up research on the beneficial use of biotechnology in agriculture to check poverty and help the country cope with globalization.

Leading Filipino scientist Reynaldo dela Cruz reported that biotechnology research now enjoys some P1 billion in yearly funding support since Congress approved the Agriculture Fisheries Modernization Act in 1997. Prior to this law, biotechnology research had a budget of only P50 million.

"Almost 80 percent of the funding for biotech research comes from the government. Fifteen percent comes from international funding agencies, while 5 percent comes from the private sector," De la Cruz said.

He added that increases in private sector support "is expected, as they see the potential of biotechnology in agriculture."

The main goal of the country's biotechnology research and development is to harness the potential of cutting-edge technology to increase productivity of all commodities in the agricultural and fisheries sector.

"Biotechnology will, therefore, play a major role in the selection and breeding of new varieties of plants and animals," De la Cruz said.

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TOYOTA

Nestlé to invest ₱2B for expansion

NESTLÉ S.A. said it would invest an additional P2 billion to further expand and upgrade its facilities in the country, in addition to the nearly P3 billion investments it announced last year.

Nestlé S.A. executive vice president and zone AOA (Asia-Oceania-Africa-Middle East) director Michael W. Garrett announced this during a meeting with Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo on Tuesday where he also expressed continued optimism and confidence in doing business in the country. Also present during the meeting were former Foreign Secretary and presidential assistant on competitiveness Roberto Romulo and Nestlé Philippines chair and CEO Juan B. Santos.

"Our investments, expansion and exports affirm our continued confidence in the Philippines and demonstrate our commitment to support the growth of the Philippine economy in whatever way we can," Garrett said.

Garrett said Nestlé S.A. management was very pleased with the excellent performance of its wholly owned subsidiary, Nestlé Philippines Inc., which achieved sales turnover of P48.5 billion last year and continued to rank among the top 10 Philippine corporations. Nestlé Philippines has also remained among the top performers in the Nestlé Group, ranking No. 11 worldwide, No. 2 in the region after Japan and No. 1 among the Nestlé companies in the Asean.

"We are optimistic that 2002 is going to be another good year for Nestlé Philippines, which has already outperformed the group's average for the first half of this year," Garrett said.

Nestlé Philippines started expanding its Cabuyao and Cagayan de Oro factories last year to serve as its Asean supply center for infant nutrition and filled milk powder, respectively. These products are exported to Nestle's Asean markets such as Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand. The company's first Asean supply center is its Lipa factory, which has been exporting breakfast cereals to Nestlé's Asean markets since 1991.

"The Nestlé Group recognizes the world-class manufacturing capability of our Philippine subsidiary, a major reason why we have designated three of our factories here as regional supply centers. The Philippines has proven that it can be cost-competitive and reliable in supplying Nestlé products to the region," said Garrett, who also visited the Nestlé Cabuyao and Cagayan de Oro factories during his five-day visit to review the Philippine operations.

SEC backs IPO discount for small investors

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission will approve the Philippine Stock Exchange's proposed 10-percent initial public offering discount to small investors and likely other revisions to the exchange's listing rules.

SEC Chair Lilia Bautista told reporters she saw no problem with granting a 10-percent discount to small investors as this could perk up the moribund stock market.

The Investment Houses Association of the Philippines (Ihap), however, has strongly objected to the 10-percent IPO discount.

The association claimed that the discount was unlikely to stir the market and would simply add to the cost of conducting an IPO.

"There are good reasons it (discount) is not feasible," Ihap officer Filomeno Francisco said.

SEC market regulation department director Jose Aquino said that Ihap had suggested that the 10-percent discount be made discretionary rather than mandatory, but the PSE said no issuer would allow the discount if it were not made mandatory.

At least 10 percent of all shares in an IPO are currently reserved for small investors.

Under the PSE's proposed revisions to its listing rules, the small investors would be allowed to acquire IPO shares at 10 percent less than the final price on listing day.

The percentage of IPO shares to be allocated to small investors would also be increased to 15 percent depending on the issuer's discretion and when the issue is at least five times oversubscribed.

A small investor refers to one willing to subscribe to a board lot or whose subscription does not exceed P25,000.

CURRENCIES

Aug. 29, 2002 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.019888	1.000000	51.9690
Japan	Yen	0.008598	0.008430	0.4381
United Kingdom	Pound	1.565528	1.535000	79.7724
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.130757	0.128207	6.6628
Switzerland	Franc	0.679789	0.666533	34.6391
Canada	Dollar	0.653984	0.641231	33.3241
Singapore	Dollar	0.583126	0.571755	29.7135
Australia	Dollar	0.562169	0.551207	28.6457
Bahrain	Dinar	0.665712	0.652731	33.9218
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.271963	0.266660	13.8581
Brunei	Dollar	0.582061	0.570711	29.6593
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000115	0.000113	0.0059
Thailand	Baht	0.024168	0.023697	1.2315
UAE	Dirham	0.277694	0.272279	14.1501
Korea	Won	0.000853	0.000836	0.0434
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.980500	50.9556
Argentina	Real	0.283302	0.277778	14.4358
Brazil	Real	0.326782	0.320410	16.6514
Denmark	Kroner	0.134583	0.131959	6.8578
India	Rupee	0.021116	0.020704	1.0760
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.268427	0.263193	13.6779
Mexico	New Peso	0.102967	0.100959	5.2467
New Zealand	Dollar	0.478439	0.469109	24.3791
Norway	Kroner	0.135387	0.132747	6.8987
Pakistan	Rupee	0.017228	0.016892	0.8779
South Africa	Rand	0.096791	0.094904	4.9552
Sweden	Kroner	0.109413	0.107279	5.5752
Syria	Pound	0.023074	0.022624	1.1757
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.029891	0.029308	1.5231
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000722	0.000708	0.0368

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PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Thursday, August 29, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	18.75	18.75	18.5	18.75	563,600
Bank of the Phil. Islands	43	44	42.5	42.5	171,900
China Banking Corp.	610	610	610	610	1,300
Citystate Savings Bank	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	28.5	28.5	28	28	357,400
First E-Bank Corp.	1.24	1.24	1.2	1.2	34,000
Global Business Bank Inc.	65	65	65	65	22,600
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	34.5	35	34.5	35	113,100
Philippine National Bank	32	32	32	32	4,100
Rizal Comm. Banking Corp.	10	10	10	10	500
Union Bank of the Phil.	18.5	18.5	18.5	18.5	23,500
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Filipino Fund Inc.	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	120,000
PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc.	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.82	10,000
Sun Life Financial Serv.	920	920	915	915	710
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	22.5	22.75	22.5	22.75	1,600
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.55	0.55	0.54	0.54	5,190,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	490	490	490	490	2,300
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.029	0.029	0.028	0.028	1,600,000
ISM Communications Corp.	0.026	0.026	0.026	0.026	6,600,000
Piltel	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.27	1,300,000
Phil. Telegraph & Tel. Co.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	240,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	295	295	290	292.5	161,710
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.012	0.012	0.011	0.012	13,700,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	18.75	18.75	18.5	18.5	61,800
Manila Electric Co. B	30.5	31	30	31	444,500
Petron Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.66	1.66	242,000
Salcon Power Corp.	1.78	1.78	1.78	1.78	10,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.42	2.42	2.4	2.42	84,000
Negros Navigation Co.Inc.	0.62	0.62	0.62	0.62	2,450,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	50,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	190,000
Union Cement Corp.	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	40,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.16	2.16	2.16	2.16	2,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.25	13.5	13.25	13.25	56,100
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	31	31	31	31	71,700
San Miguel Corp. A	48.5	49	48.5	48.5	184,500
San Miguel Corp. B	52.5	52.5	52	52	41,700
Universal Robina Corp.	3.95	3.95	3.95	3.95	21,000
Vitarich Corp.	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	100,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.2	2,283,000
Alsons Cons. Res. Inc.	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	0.0625	400,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.26	2.26	2.26	2.26	199,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.54	0.54	0.54	0.54	30,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	8,000,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.24	0.245	0.24	0.24	8,320,000
First Phil Hldgs. Corp.	13	13.25	13	13.25	630,500
Global Equities Inc.	0.0725	0.0725	0.0725	0.0725	400,000
Ionics Inc.	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	16,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.36	1.4	1.36	1.36	224,000
Macroasia Corp.	0.7	0.72	0.7	0.72	40,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	590,000
Mabuhay Holdings Corp.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1,000,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.24	0.245	0.24	0.24	2,200,000
Unioil Res. & Holdings Co.	0.036	0.036	0.036	0.036	100,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1,060,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.38	0.39	0.36	0.39	1,300,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	10,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	200,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	22.75	22.75	22.75	22.75	35,700
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	5.7	5.8	5.6	5.6	21,853,000
Cityland Development Corp.	2	2	2	2	25,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.12	1.2	1.12	1.16	9,293,000
Highlands Prime Inc.	1.98	2	1.92	2	1,344,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	2,000,000
Phil Realty and Holdings	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	500,000
SM Development Corp.	0.94	0.95	0.91	0.95	630,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5.7	5.7	5.7	5.7	2,022,000
MINING					
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0028	0.003	0.0028	0.003	2,000,000
Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't.	1.2	1.58	1.2	1.58	2,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	10,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185	270,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.014	0.014	0.014	0.014	600,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	410,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	300,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.011	0.012	0.011	0.012	3,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0024	0.0024	0.0024	0.0024	5,000,000
Pacifica	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.011	6,600,000
Sinophil Corp.	0.03	0.044	0.03	0.044	4,500,000

DISCLOSURES

ELECTED directors of **Dizon Copper-Silver Mines Inc.** were Joel Matsuda, Serafin Feliciano Jr., Frederick Matsuda, Teodoro Ablang Jr., Gregorio Dizon, Ramona Feliciano, Luis Dizon, Manuel Diaz and Teresita Dizon.

* * *

ELECTED directors of **DMCI Holdings Inc.** were David Consunji, Cesar Buenaventura, Isidro Consunji, Victor Consunji, Jorge Consunji, Edwina Laperal and Herbert Consunji. Elected independent directors were Oscar Reyes and Evaristo Francisco.

* * *

A. SORIANO Corp. declared a cash dividend of P0.05 per share in favor of stockholders of record as of Sept. 12 and shall be payable on Oct. 8.

* * *

THE BOARD of **Zipporah Realty Holdings Inc.** has approved the company's manual on corporate governance.

* * *

LA TONDEÑA Distillers Inc. bought 2,900 of its own shares at P31 per share.

* * *

ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. confirmed it was negotiating for a long-term funding facility so it could refinance its short-term borrowings and use it as working capital.

Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

Shares . . .

From page B1

4.5 percent in the second quarter, outpacing government and economists' predictions, which ranged between 3.78 percent and 4 percent.

But traders said the rally was hobbled by government budget deficit fears.

"Concerns brought about by the ballooning deficit and its negative effects on the economy, like the possibility of higher interest rates in the future, a weaker peso, and the difficulty on part of the government to raise funds for projects outweighed the positive impact of the economic data," said KGI Securities trader Lawrence de Leon.

There is also the concern that the country's economy may not keep up its second-quarter economic performance. ***AP***

Court . . .

From page B1

gality of SBMA's second-hand importation noting that the country's governing rules explicitly prohibit the importation of RHD vehicles and second-hand imports were allowed only on a very limited basis, such as through a *balikbayan* program.

The source said the PAA argued that the SBMA could only bring in the second-hand RHD imports if these were re-exported to other countries after their conversion in Subic.

The source said a TRO on LTO registrations, especially if made permanent, should have an immediate impact on the operations of Subic importers who have already piled up 16,000 units in their inventory because the Bureau of Customs has either slowed down or stopped the processing of imports of second-hand, RHD units.

LTO figures in the last two years showed a wide gap between the agency's new registrations and sales of new vehicles. It registered 172,051 units in 2000 and 173,695 units in 2001 versus vehicle sales of 83,994 in 2000 and 76,671 units in 2001.

The Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc. said the wide discrepancy between new vehicle sales and LTO registrations reflected the volume of trade in second-hand imports and its impact on the local automotive industry considering that each converted vehicle sold was a lost opportunity for the 22 assemblers and 250 franchise and authorized vehicle dealers in the country.

Consumers, co-ops buck Transco privatization

By Ronnel W. Domingo

MILITANT consumer groups and electric cooperatives yesterday strongly opposed the planned privatization of the National Transmission Corp., saying this would spell greater disaster rather than prove that the economy was still going forward.

President Macapagal-Arroyo earlier asked Congress to pass a law allowing Transco to build, operate and maintain a power transmission system—along with another that would grant tax incentives to asset management firms—that she said would show that the economy was still functioning.

"This is just wishful thinking, but (Ms Macapagal) would likely get her wish," Bayan Muna Rep. Crispin Beltran said in a statement.

Beltran said the passage of the Transco franchise bill would be railroaded as soon as pro-administration lawmakers got their act together.

He said Malacañang had begun to twist arms in the House of Representatives, with energy committee chair Rep. Alipio Cirilo Badelles declaring that legislators had no choice but to pass the bill since the power reform law required it.

Beltran said: "Solons are being held hostage by the (Electric Power Industry Reform Act), which in itself was passed despite being a complete sell-out to powerful industry players. Our hands are tied despite the glaring fact that the Transco bill would only add to the worsening problems of electricity consumers."

Alain Pascua, chair of the Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan-All Filipino Democratic Movement, said the privatization of the Transco was against national interest since the transmission sector was in the scope of national security.

The government expects to earn about $2.5 billion from the privatization of Transco. Investors who have expressed interest in Transco include firms from the United Kingdom, France, Spain and Japan.

With Sharon ads, Cebu food firm tries luck in Luzon

By Christine A. Gaylican

CEBU-BASED Virginia Foods Inc. has expressed optimism it can double its sales this year, as it expands its market distribution all over the country.

Virginia Foods will try its luck in the discriminating Luzon market with its frozen and canned meat products, company president Francis Tiukinhoy told reporters yesterday.

The company, which started as a hog raising venture, has concentrated its operations in the Visayas and Mindanao.

It is currently the fourth largest food firm in the Visayas and Mindanao.

"We have started our product distributorship in Luzon, and we are hopeful sales will double this year," Tiukinhoy said.

Tiukinhoy said the forays into Luzon was pushed by Virginia Foods' new owner, Avalon Holdings Inc.

Avalon acquired full ownership of Virginia Foods from the Chiongbian family of Cebu in January this year.

Tiukinhoy declined to comment on reports that the new shareholders in Virginia Foods were companies controlled by tobacco tycoon Lucio Tan.

To gain national exposure, Virginia Foods has come up with a television ad with movie actress Sharon Cuneta promoting the company's "Winner" corned beef brand.

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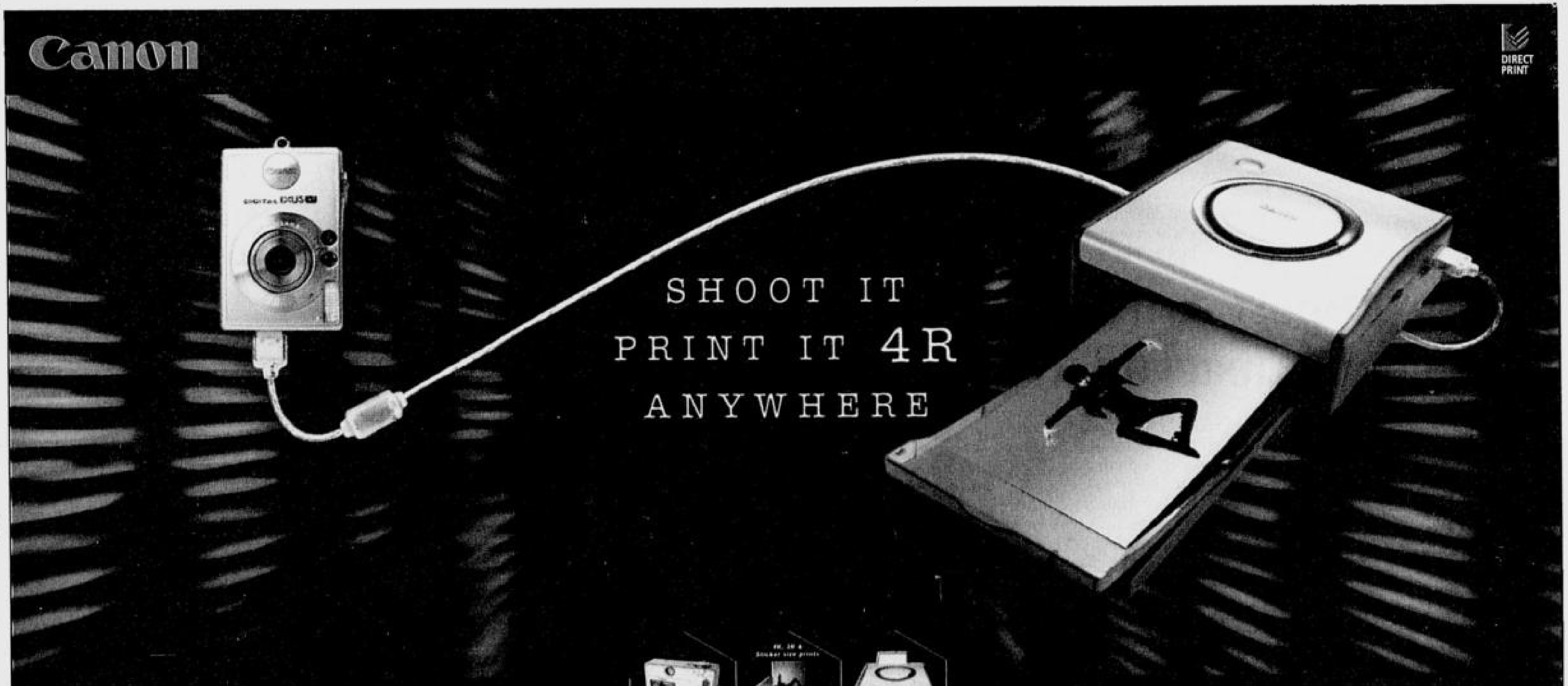

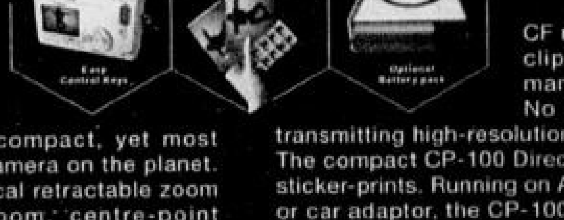

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UNILEVER BOOK LAUNCH

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo in light discussion with Unilever global chair Anthony Burgmans (left) and Howard Belton (right), president of Unilever Phils., during the launching of the Unilever-sponsored book "Laguna de Bay: The Living Lake" at the Rigodon Ballroom of the Manila Peninsula Hotel.

GMA'S art of executive recruitment

LABOR MANAGEMENT FORUM

Josephus B. Jimenez

THE CHOICE of the new DepEd secretary and BIR commissioner is illustrative of the high degree of professionalism and less politicking in the present government's executive recruitment system. If President GMA is only left alone in the selection of her closest advisers and immediate official family members, she is the type who'd go for one who is most qualified technically and professionally rather than those who are well-known political power players.

But GMA is not only the chief of state and head of the government. She is also the titular head of Lakas and the ruling party coalition. She has to deal with the senators, congressmen, governors, mayors, generals (for she is also the Commander in Chief) and plain political sycophants and influence peddlers. She has to pay political debts. And if we are imbued with pragmatic realism in our perspectives, GMA has to think of 2004. Her appointments today should at least not derail her political grand plan.

Search committee

The best recruitment decision ever made by GMA was the creation of a search committee that serves as her official "John Clements-type" of high-level executive acquisition mechanism. It shielded the system from the importuning and machinations of political lobbyists and the *trapo* political players who still hang on the outmoded patronage and *compadre* politics of old.

Of course, GMA has the prerogative to disregard totally the committee's proposal. But so far, GMA has substantially accepted the nominations emanating from it.

Composed of a highly independent breed of world-class professionals and career executives, such as Vicky Garchitorena, Pat Sto. Tomas, Dinky Soliman and Chito Sobrepeña, the search committee does the search, screening, evaluation, background investigation and truth verifying those glossy curriculum vitae and high-powered endorsements from all sorts of sectors, from the politicians, the Church, business, labor, the NGOs, civic organizations and pressure groups.

Professionalism or politics

If GMA were only playing politics, she would have chosen Rep. Gerry Espina as DepEd secretary, instead of the well-respected Dr. Edilberto de Jesus. Espina could have helped consolidate Lakas forces in Eastern Visayas. De Jesus cannot deliver any block of solid votes in 2004, but he can continue Roco's crusade for reforms at the DepEd. And De Jesus is not controversial. He has no presidential ambition.

Choosing De Jesus was also an apt political move for he is the type who can command compliance without antagonizing union backlash. The FEU president is experienced with unions. The FEU union is a very assertive and highly independent-minded group of professionals who know their rights. There has been no serious labor dispute in FEU under De Jesus' leadership. I should know. I'm an FEU law professor. De Jesus is firm and he talks less. He is not a political player. He just does his job exceptionally well.

Matching jobs and nominees

The candidates for the DepEd after Roco were all professionals in their field of competencies. Dr. Nilo Rosas, former DECS undersecretary and incumbent president of Philippine Normal University, could have been a good DepEd secretary. But he is perceived somehow soft, given the present upsurge of union activism in the education department. Dr. Emmanuel Angeles, former president of Angeles U, is not soft but he prefers to stay as president of Clark Development Corp. Dr. Anding Roces is the best but he is too old for DepEd given today's call for passion and dynamism.

De Jesus is not young either. He is 60, not too old but past his days of wine and roses. He has an exemplary wife who made a name for herself, Melinda Quintos, the executive director of the Center for Media and Freedom and Responsibility and publisher of the Philippine Journalism Review. Perhaps, the search committee considers the spouse in making executive choices for husbands and wives play vital roles in the success or debacles of public officials.

Sectoral recognition

One of De Jesus' sterling qualities is his recognition by his peers and sectors. He is the incumbent Pacu (Philippine Association of Colleges) president. He is a trustee of the Ateneo board. He used to be a presidential adviser to President Aquino on rural development. Like Bro. Andrew of Ateneo, Armand Fabella of JRU and Sid Cariño of UE, he has a wide experience dealing with school owners, faculty, non-teaching staff and students.

The committee must have considered all these and the President herself saw these rare assets which neither Rosas nor Roces possesses. Perhaps, this is a good trend in executive recruitment in the bureaucracy. The sector he seeks to serve must be consulted. If De Jesus wanted ample support from an undersecretary, he may wish to consider Dr. Teresita U. Quirino, president of TIP, Tesda director and a globally recognized educator who heads a world association of school presidents. Or Sister Teresita Bayona of St. Paul's. These women are, to me, the best education leaders today.

Consensus builder

A good DepEd secretary is one who can build a consensus around the President's long-range strategies for national development. We don't need unnecessary social conflicts in the education sector. We need a secretary who can build a cohesive coalition of commitments and competence among DepEd officials and personnel, especially the teachers and the students.

We don't need a secretary who will be suspected of illegal political campaign when he pushes a new curriculum or work for value formation via a glossy poster. Neither do we need a DepEd top gun who goes to the regions to meet the superintendents and supervisors, principals and teachers only to be perceived, albeit unfairly, as building momentum for a presidential campaign.

Executive recruitment for a government is indeed a fine art that must be handled with utmost care and concern. So far, GMA is doing well.

Group proposes measures to cushion tariff cuts' impact on RP industries

AN ALLIANCE of industry, labor, agriculture, consumer and civil society groups has presented to the government a six-point proposal to avert the collapse of many local industries and the dislocation of hundreds of thousands of workers arising from the tariff reductions under the Asean Free Trade Area-Common Effective Preferential Tariff (Afta-CEPT) scheme, set to be fully implemented next year.

To complete the government's unilateral tariff reduction program, a similar scheme covering the most-favored nations (MFN) outside the Asean will also be implemented in 2004. Both the Afta-CEPT and MFN aim to reduce tariffs to a band of zero to 5 percent on almost all imported products with 60 percent of the Philippine tariff lines to be further reduced to zero percent under the Afta-CEPT in 2003.

In a letter to Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Secretary Manuel Roxas II, the Fair Trade Alliance (FTA) headed by former Sen. Wigberto Tañada stressed that the tariff reduction programs were undertaken without adequate notice and consultations with affected industries and producers. The FTA said tariffs were slashed at an accelerated speed without regard to their effects on industries and producers.

The group has proposed, for one, the exemption of strategic industries like the midstream and downstream sectors of the petrochemical industry from Afta to "eliminate the distortions caused by the Afta-CEPT scheme and ensure their viability."

Another measure presented is the invocation of a protocol under the Afta-CEPT that will allow the delay of the transfer to the inclusion list of certain products or the suspension of the concessions on products already in the inclusion list.

FTA also asked for the disaggregation of tariff lines and the review of concessions given to Afta countries; the strengthening of safety nets, and the leveling of the playing field for local industries and producers.

"The current tariff policy does not serve the national interest," Tañada said in a statement presented to Roxas. "The current tariff policy deters investments in highly capital-intensive industries and undercuts the viability of local producers. It is biased against manufacturing that has significant and substantial contributions to the economy in terms of taxes, value generation and employment opportunity," he added.

"Since our Asean and other neighbors have been cautious in the opening of their respective economies, choosing to institute non-tariff barriers, the maintenance of high MFN tariff walls, and a gradual reduction of their Afta-CEPT rates for their key industries, excess capacities found its way into the Philippines, severely undermining local industries and producers," said the FTA.

The FTA said that the tariff policy was "myopic" because it failed to anticipate that the excess capacities were temporary and that it would disappear in the long-term. "If local industries perish in the interregnum, the Philippines and its consumers will ultimately be subjected to higher prices and instability of supply," the group said.

At least 13 strategic and big industries were named by the group as already suffering or under threat of serious injury because of the tariff reductions. These are the industries in petrochemicals, match, cordage, tire, oleochemicals and footwear.

People, Events & Products

PFX unveils C400, C320 with color on demand

PHILIPPINE Fuji Xerox (PFX), the leader in document management innovation, introduces the very first color-capable multifunction systems with the introduction of the new document centers C400 and C320. These new digital machines provide print, copy, scan and fax functions in a single solution and are priced as affordably as black-and-white systems.

"Five years ago, Fuji Xerox revolutionized document creation by replacing analogue copiers with digital multifunction devices. Today, Fuji Xerox is again leading the way, this time by bringing affordable color to its office multifunction range," said PFX president Romy S. Serrano. "The new Document Centers C400 and C320 boast of all the speed, productivity and functionality that our customers have come to expect of the Fuji Xerox Document Center range of products, but with color as standard and within the price range as black and white multifunction machines."

The Document Center C400 and C320 is a fully integrated document solution with output speeds up to 40 black-and-white pages per minute and 20 color ppm and 32 black and white ppm and 16 color ppm, respectively.

"Color is an important benefit for office documents," adds Serrano. "It attracts, clarifies and sells and is the best way to highlight key info. Not only do color documents look more professional, but color also increases reader motivation and sells products and services better."

Converting paper documents to digital files has never been as quick and easy as with the Document Center C400/C320. With enhanced scanning capabilities, these machines give users a variety of transmission options, including scan to PDF, scan to e-mail, scan to document depository and scan to HTML.

The Document Center C400/C320 can also be configured to either print, store or convert all incoming faxes into electronic mail, which can then be e-mailed directly to intended recipients. With this feature, users do not need to wait at the fax machine for confidential faxes, and paper wastage is minimized.

These machines work with the Fuji Xerox software sutie to support an entire document management cycle, including data capture and information sharing, right through to output. The Fuji Xerox software suite includes Docuworks, Docushare, CentreWare and Flowport.

The introduction of the Document center C400/C320 indicates Fuji Xerox' position as a leading global manufacturer of office systems for document creation and publishing from network and stand-alone digital black-and-white and color printers and copiers, electronic scanners, plotters, multifunction devices, document management software, and document supplies.

NMPI's 3-yr warranty on Cefiro, QR-V

IN 2000, a revitalized Nissan Motor Philippines Inc. (NMPI), launched its program to strengthen its position in the local automotive industry. A reputation for innovation came about through the introduction of high-amenity models that offered the market features found only in high-end luxury European models. Recently, Nissan has launched all new models, such as the Serena Q-RV and the Cefiro. Both models offer Filipino buyers innovative appointments, providing greater ownership value. Nissan lauched the Serena Q-RV saying it was a vehicle that could "possibly make everybody happy all at once." In June, three months after the initial sales date, the Serena dominated the RV market sales. NMPI's Vir Diwa attributes this to the Serena's being "a high-quality product, with excellent performance and reasonable level of luxury, making the ownership value much greater than the initial acquisition cost."

Now, Nissan says it will make every Nissan Serena Q-RV and Cefiro owner even happier. Nissan has just announced that every Nissan Serena Q-RV and Cefiro is covered by a three-year or 100,000-km warranty, enhancing the ownership experience. The warranty covers all Nissan Serena Q-RV and all new Cefiro units sold and delivered by NMPI, since their launch dates this year. This means that on the rare occurrence of a proven defective part or workmanship in the vehicle, NMPI warrants that authorized Nissan dealers will repair or replace the part free of charge for the designated period and mileage of three years or 100,000 km, whichever comes first, with exceptions as listed in the customer warranty booklet.

"We are really just pursuing our quest for refreshing value delivery. Actually we have just rounded out the ownership package. Aside from the versatility, power and performance, and the astounding quietness our models provide, we now give every customer a heightened sense of satisfaction and security," said Jack HF Wu, president and CEO of NMPI.

Both models are produced at Nissan manufacturing facilities that are ISO 9002 Quality Assurance Certified, and available at all Nissan dealers nationwide.

Support for MSP

AFTER 400 years of being Christians and being a predominantly Christian country in Asia, Catholic Bishops consider the Philippine Church mature enough to be able to share the faith with others, especially with its neighboring countries in Asia. Thus, in 1965, the Mission Society of the Philippines (MSP) was established to serve as a missionary arm of the Philippine Church and a living sign of gratitude of the Filipino faithful for the faith received.

Today, MSP has 69 priests doing mission work in Thailand, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan and Hong Kong. They also work in the Pacific areas like Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, New Zealand and Samoa.

Since 1967, Catholic Bishops have designated every last Sunday of July as Filipino-Mission Sunday. This year, the Fil-Mission Sunday was celebrated July 28. The day was celebrated in all parishes in the country for the following intentions: to thank the Lord for the gift of faith we received through the efforts of the missionaries in the past; to commemorate the unselfish work of the Filipino missionaries around the world; to make the faithful realize their mission vocation; to appeal for more spiritual and material support for our Filipino missionaries, particularly for the members of the Mission Society of the Philippines. Filipino missionaries are our representatives to the world. Let us be one with them through our prayers and support. The MSP can be reached at the Pope Pius XII Catholic Center, third floor, room 316-318, UN Avenue, Paco, Manila, with tel. nos. 524-2977, 524-2979, fax 524-2995.

Canon supports La Mesa Dam rehab

REHABILITATION of the La Mesa Dam Watershed gets a big boost as Canon Marketing (Philippines) Inc. partners with ABS-CBN Bantay Kalikasan in its efforts to develop the 2,700-hectare area into a nature park and a biodiversity reserve.

"Globally,Canon has always been very supportive of environmental projects. Environmental protection has been the company's advocacy for many years," said Tet Magno, Canon Philippines assistant manager for corporate communications.

La Mesa Dam is one of the three major sources of water for Metro Manila. Its destruction would result in a massive water crisis and severe flooding. To ensure the sustainability of La Mesa Dam, some 1,200 hectares of denuded areas in the watershed should be planted with trees over the next five years.

Close to 50 percent of the denuded portions of the watershed has been reforested with help from thousands of volunteers including students, professionals and corporate employees.

Volunteers from Canon recently did their share in the La Mesa Dam rehabilitation effort when they spent one Saturday morning in the watershed area to help plant trees. Each volunteer planted up to five seedlings in the one-hectare area allotted for the company. The target planting density for each hectare of land in the watershed area is from 500 to 625 seedlings.

"We are pleased to take part in this campaign to rehabilitate the La Mesa Dam Watershed. It is very consistent with Canon's philosophy of corporate responsibility. Although we are here for business, we also recognize our responsibility to the community in which we do business," Magno said.

Tofil awards deadline Aug. 31

NOMINATIONS to this year's Search for the Outstanding Filipino (Tofil) must be submitted on or before Aug. 31, as announced by the search's sponsors, the Philippine Jaycee Senate (PJS) and the Insular Life Assurance Company Ltd.

On its 15th year, the Tofil award continues to give public recognition to Filipino men and women, 41 years old and above, who have significantly contributed to the advancement of the lives of their fellowmen.

Since its inception in 1988, 71 outstanding Filipinos have received the award. The Tofil awardees for 2001 were philanthropist Dr. James G. Dy for humanitarian service, former DOST Secretary Dr. Ceferino L. Follosco for engineering science and technology, distance education forerunner Dr. Fortunata C. Villamar for education, Supreme Court Associate Justice Jose C. Vitug for judiciary law, and Enrique J. Zobel for business.

Nominations are available at all PJS chapter offices or Insular Life offices nationwide, and must be submitted to the Philippine Jaycee Senate, second floor of Jaycee Building, 14 Don Alejandro Roces Avenue, Quezon City. For more information, call the PJS secretariat at 374-4390, 373-5819, or Insular Life at 771-1818 local 1121-1124.

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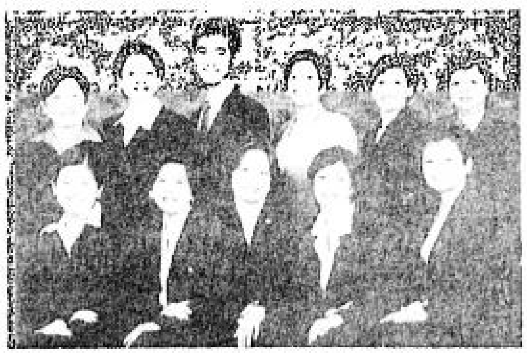
Headed by: Gloria Kaw, seated middle

Redwood NBO
Headed by. Mary Chan, seated middle

Durian NBO
Headed by. Alfredo Sy, third from upper right

Palm NBO
Headed by. Evangeline Tiu, left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Headed by. Winda Tan Gonzales, seated right

Eucalyptus NBO
Headed by: Marita Abellera, seated middle

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What is WTO?

GENEVA—The World Trade Organization (WTO), established in January 1995, now counts almost every nation on earth among its members with the main aim of helping trade flow as freely and fairly as possible.

Based in Geneva, the WTO has 144 members, of whom about three quarters are from the developing world. China joined last December after 15 years of negotiations, and Russia and Saudi Arabia are among the big economic powers to remain outside.

The WTO replaced the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) which previously laid down the rules since 1948 and oversaw eight rounds of trade negotiations.

The WTO came into existence at the end of the Uruguay Round from 1986-1994 and its agreements cover not only goods, as was the case under the GATT, but also trade in services, inventions, creations and designs.

Although a procedure for settling disputes existed under the GATT, the WTO dispute settlement system is faster, more automatic and its rulings are binding and cannot be blocked. Experts hear complaints, give rulings and authorize a country to impose sanctions against another WTO member. Contentious issues have included bananas, steel, textiles, tax breaks and anti-dumping rules.

The WTO takes decisions on the basis of a consensus among members.

One of the fundamental principles running through all WTO accords prevents countries discriminating between trading partners—a special favor such as a lower customs duty rate granted to one partner has to apply to all other WTO members. **AFP**

Thailand's Supachai first Asian to head WTO, succeeds Moore

GENEVA—New Zealand's Mike Moore steps down on Saturday as head of the World Trade Organization (WTO) after three years at the helm, to be replaced by Supachai Panitchpakdi of Thailand.

No formal handing-over ceremony is planned to mark the occasion but Supachai is expected to give his first press conference as director general on his second official day in the job on Monday.

Supachai, a former deputy prime minister, is the first Asian and first member of a developing country to hold the top job at the WTO, established in 1995 to help trade flow as freely and fairly as possible.

Moore, in his final speech to the WTO's ruling general council at the end of July, said he believed the last three years had seen "very solid achievement" but said there was still much to do.

He said he was in regular contact with his successor and he assured delegates he would "do all I can to support him and the WTO." The former New Zealand prime minister took over the post in 1999 after a fiercely fought contest against the Thai, that ended in a historic compromise. The two men halved the normal tenure to serve three years each.

Moore began shortly before WTO ministers headed to the US city of Seattle for a December conference that spectacularly failed to launch new global trade talks amid violent street protests.

The collapse plunged the Geneva-based body into a crisis of confidence and period of self-questioning and criticism both inside the 144-strong membership and from outside the body.

But the WTO under Moore's guidance managed to kick off the Doha Development Agenda, a new three-year round of trade liberalization talks, in the Qatari capital last autumn.

"We can take pride as well in the momentum we have maintained since Doha," Moore told delegates in his farewell speech.

However, it will be for Supachai to bring the open trade talks, in areas such as agriculture, services and intellectual property rights, to their scheduled close by Jan. 1, 2005.

As director general, he will also be the chair of the trade negotiations committee that oversees the trade talks, faces pursuing reforms and further integrating developing countries, which make up four-fifths of the membership.

Nor can he ignore high-profile trade disputes being battled out at the WTO's dispute settlement body, including over US steel tariffs.

Under Moore, China successfully concluded its 15-year-long negotiations for WTO membership at the end of last year.

As director general, Supachai may see the entry of Russia, which has said it aims to join by 2003 although an official recently said the bid could be delayed until 2007. **AFP**

Supachai to give poor nations voice in powerful body

BANGKOK—Thailand's Supachai Panitchpakdi, who takes the helm of the World Trade Organization on Sept. 1, is expected to offer developing nations a longed-for voice at the top table of global commerce.

The former Thai commerce minister replaces outgoing director Mike Moore of New Zealand, who poor nations saw as waving the banner of the developed world at the powerful body.

In 1999 the two were pitted in a bruising leadership race that highlighted different approaches to global trade and was finally resolved by a term-sharing compromise giving each man a three-year term.

Supachai takes up the top job at a time of political and economic crisis, as the world grapples with a prolonged slowdown compounded by the fallout of the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

In Doha, Qatar, in November, the 144-member body hammered out a new round of trade liberalization negotiations expected to last until January 2005.

It is not expected to be smooth sailing, and Supachai hinted as much in Hong Kong in May when he said negotiations under the Doha round will be "touching on the raw nerves of participating countries."

The veteran politician served as commerce minister and deputy prime minister in the government of Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai, which was defeated in elections early last year.

Since then the 55-year-old has maintained a low profile and stayed well out of the rancorous Thai political scene as he prepared to step onto the world stage.

Supachai has said he aims to ensure developing nations a place alongside the West and Japan in the next round of global trade talks.

Soon he will have to put that pledge into action, possibly against trade giants who in the past have not been keen to broaden the scope of WTO decision making.

Amid rising discontent at the spread of globalization, Supachai has also promised critics of the new global trading regime that he will implement reforms when he takes charge.

"I hope that when it comes to the next ministerial conference we will see sacrifices coming from the advanced countries to make the round really a development round," he told a World Development Movement gathering in London in June.

Experts believe that the most significant factor in the Doha round will be the way in which subsidies are reduced, principally in agriculture. **AFP**

WOMEN wearing traditional Xhosa clothing attend a protest against the World Trade Organization at the NGO Global Forum at the Nasrec Exposition Center in Johannesburg. The forum is running in conjunction with the World Summit on Sustainable Development. AP

Mike Moore: Self-made man who led WTO

GENEVA—New Zealander Mike Moore is a self-made man and former trade unionist, who during his three years at the helm of the WTO repeatedly said he wanted to see the "smaller guys" getting a bigger bite at the multilateral trading apple.

He oversaw probably the most turbulent period in the short history of the World Trade Organization, namely the spectacular collapse of the 1999 Seattle ministerial meeting that plunged the organization into a crisis of confidence.

At the same time, the Geneva-based body whose ranks have swollen to 144 members, has increasingly become the target of anti-globalization campaigners who have blamed it for many of the world's woes and for trampling on the needs of poor countries.

But in November, Moore helped pull off the launch of the Doha Development Agenda in the Qatari capital, kicking off a fresh three-year round of trade liberalization talks. He can also boast overseeing China's long-awaited entry into the WTO.

"I deserve an F for Seattle, while it may well not have been my fault it is certainly my responsibility," Moore commented to journalists recently.

But his grades have increased since, and he rates progress since Doha as a B plus while efforts to restructure the WTO, he believes, deserve a C plus.

Moore, 53, was the WTO's second director general and took up the reins in September 1999 after a race that faced stiff competition from Thailand's former deputy prime minister Supachai Panitchpakdi. **AFP**

Global growth to come in at low 2.9%—EIU

LONDON—Global economic growth will come in at 2.9 percent this year, led by a drop in US and euro zone growth, according to the latest forecasts from the Economist Intelligence Unit published on Thursday.

The London-based researcher said a month ago world growth would be 3.2 percent in 2002. The EIU also downgraded its forecast for 2003 growth to 3.9 percent from 4.1 percent a month ago.

US growth was forecast at 2.4 percent in 2002, down from 2.9 percent in a survey a month ago, while 2003 growth would rebound by 2.8 percent, compared with a previous forecast of 3.2 percent.

The EIU's September survey said that a sharp loss of consumer and business confidence seen in recent months, following a spate of corporate accounting scandals in the United States and low equity prices, was having an impact on consumption and investment levels.

The survey comes after the Conference Board's US consumer confidence index for August was reported on Tuesday to have fallen to its lowest level in nine months.

"A US double dip should be avoided, but the (US) economy is substantially weaker than we hoped only a month ago," said Robin Bew, the EIU's chief economist.

Euro zone growth has been downgraded to one percent in 2002, according to the latest EIU survey, from growth of 1.4 percent predicted a month ago. For 2003, the EIU forecasts 2.3 percent growth, down from 2.6 percent. **Reuters**

Former Worldcom execs may plead guilty

NEW YORK—Three former WorldCom Inc. executives may plead guilty and cooperate with prosecutors investigating the United States' largest accounting scandal.

Their anticipated cooperation could increase the pressure on indicted former chief financial officer Scott Sullivan to strike a deal. and tell what he knows about his boss, former CEO Bernard Ebbers.

In a seven-count indictment filed Wednesday in federal court in Manhattan, Sullivan was accused of overseeing a long-running conspiracy to hide operating expenses in order to boost the telecommunication giant's earnings.

The indictment also named a new defendant, Buford Yates Jr., WorldCom's former director of general accounting, in the alleged scheme to artificially boost the telecommunications giant's bottom line.

Ebbers' lawyers have said he had no knowledge of the allegedly fraudulent accounting decisions that allowed the company to falsely report billions of dollars in nonexistent earnings. His name was not mentioned in the indictment.

The charges, filed after an apparent breakdown in plea negotiations between Sullivan's lawyer and prosecutors, represent a major step forward in the investigation of Worldcom.

As the indictment was unsealed, US Attorney James Comey filed papers indicating that three of Sullivan's subordinates are prepared to plead guilty and provide information about their former bosses.

The documents show that former controller David Myers and former accounting executives Betty Vinson and Troy Normand are preparing to waive their right to be indicted by a grand jury.

They could instead come to court to answer a criminal information, used by suspects who plead guilty under an agreement with authorities. Myers was charged in an earlier criminal complaint and Vinson and Normand have been named unindicted co-conspirators.

Marvin Smilon, a spokesperson for the US attorney, declined to say whether the three are cooperating with prosecutors.

Yates' lawyer, David Schertler, said: "We were somewhat surprised with the indictment today. Without looking at it closely we're not really prepared to comment."

Calls to other defense attorneys were not immediately returned.

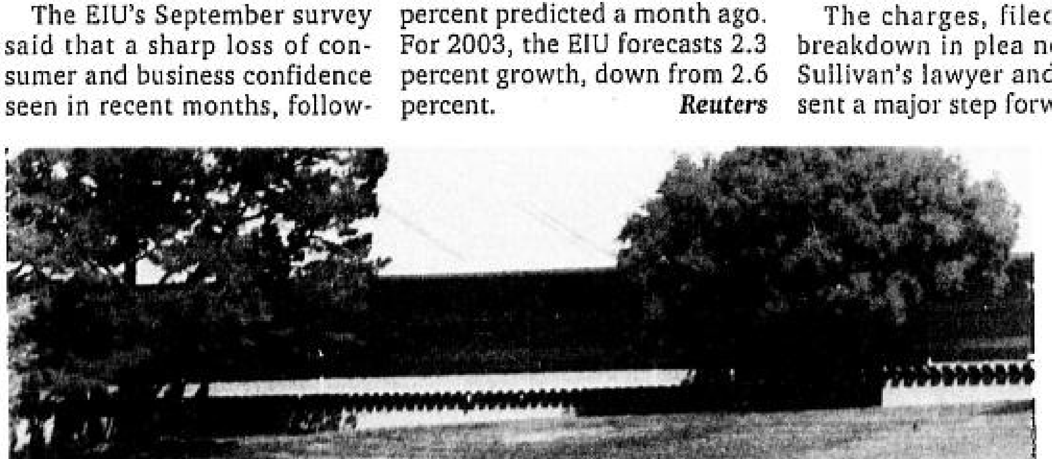
Sullivan's attorney, Irv Nathan, has said his client was a victim of "a rush to judgment."

Sullivan allegedly instructed the executives to hide WorldCom's increasing expenses, in part by illegally manipulating credits and debits entries in company ledgers.

The moves allowed WorldCom to claim to investors that their line costs were roughly 40 percent of their revenue between 1999 and 2000—when the true figure was roughly 50 percent.

"Sullivan, Yates, and their co-conspirators were able to assure that WorldCom's reported earnings exceeded its actual earnings for the period from October 2000 through April 2002 by approximately $5 billion," the indictment said. "As Sullivan, Myers, Yates, Vinson, and Normand well knew, there was no justification in fact or under generally accepted accounting principles for these entries."

WorldCom, which owns MCI, the United States' second largest long-distance company, filed for bankruptcy protection July 21 after disclosing the accounting abuses. It was the biggest such filing in US history. Since then, the company has disclosed an additional $3.3 billion in inflated profits. **AP**



HEWLETT-PACKARD Co. headquarters in Palo Alto, Calif. In the first financial results since closing its merger with Compaq Computer Corp., HP said third-quarter sales fell short of expectations though the integration of the companies remains on track. The company blamed the lower revenue on weak demand for technology by businesses and consumers, not problems in its corporate marriage. AP

Hewlett Packard cuts income estimates

SAN FRANCISCO/NEW YORK—A number of Wall Street analysts cut forecasts for Hewlett-Packard Co.'s 2003 earnings on Wednesday after the computer maker reported big losses in its computer divisions following its merger with Compaq Computer Corp.

But HP shares gained 6 cents for the day, outperforming most technology companies, as investors and analysts concluded that the first three months of the controversial merger had gone pretty much to management plan and operating earnings met the consensus forecast.

The analysts cut their earnings estimates by a range of about 8 percent to 23 percent for fiscal 2003, which starts in November.

A $422-million loss in the high-end computer and data storage business, called enterprise systems, was taken as a bad sign by financial and technology analysts.

"In terms of enterprise systems, it is not just the economy. They are doing worse than their competitors," said Paul McGuckin of technology research firm Gartner Inc.

HP was not the only computer company to face glum reports.

High-end computer maker Sun Microsystems Inc., due to give a mid-quarter report on Thursday, sank more than 6 percent after Goldman Sachs analyst Laura Conigliaro said the quarter might be worse than Wall Street expected, given current weakness in information technology spending.

And storage heavyweight EMC Corp., dropped nearly 10 percent, which S.G. Cowen analyst Richard Chu said could be in sympathy with Sun and HP's comments on tough storage pricing.

No. 1 personal computer and printer maker HP on Tuesday reported revenues for its fiscal third quarter that were about $200 million shy of expectations, while its adjusted earnings of 14 cents per share, which excluded merger-related costs, were in line with the analyst consensus. **Reuters**

NSC debt restructuring OKd

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PHILIPPINE creditor banks and Pengurusan Danaharta Nasional Bhd. have agreed in principle to a debt restructuring deal for National Steel Corp. after the banks agreed to give the Malaysians a say on key asset sales and management decisions even with a minority stake in the steel giant.

Trade and Industry Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II said the banks and Danaharta had reached a verbal agreement on four crucial issues—the management of NSC, disposal of assets, change in core business and the sale of NSC to a third party. This, he said, should pave the way for the signing of a formal agreement on a debt restructuring program.

Roxas led a Philippine delegation made up of officials of NSC's creditor banks and the NSC liquidator in Kuala Lumpur last week to negotiate with Malaysian officials on the proposed debt restructuring program.

Under the proposed debt restructuring agreement, creditor banks will write-off P6 billion of their P16-billion loan exposure in NSC and convert the balance to an 80-percent equity in the steel giant.

This will leave NSC with a more manageable debt load of P2 billion and make it more attractive to potential investors that were keen on reopening NSC's Iligan steel mill which has been closed since November 1999 due to mounting losses and debt expenses.

The debt-conversion will dilute Danaharta's controlling 82-percent stake in NSC to 15 percent. Danaharta had balked at getting a minority interest in the company without getting a concession from creditor banks to retain veto power on key corporate decisions.

Aside from Danaharta, the holdings of minority shareholders National Development Co. (12.5 percent) and Marubeni Corp. (5 percent) are also expected be slashed to 4 percent and one percent, respectively.

NSC owes roughly P16 billion to 14 Philippines banks and financial institutions—Philippine National Bank, Allied Banking Corp., Land Bank of the Philippines, United Overseas Bank Philippines, Global Banking Corp., Bank of Commerce, China Banking Corp., Equitable-PCIBank, Rizal Commercial Banking Corp., Traders Royal Bank, United Coconut Planters Bank, Urban Bank, Credit Agricole Indosuez, and Wise Citco.

PNOC remits ₱167M to BTr

STATE-OWNED Philippine National Oil Co. yesterday said it had remitted to the Bureau of Treasury P167 million, representing the balance of the national government's P317-million share in PNOC's income for 2001.

PNOC president Thelmo Cunanan explained in a statement that the company, being a government-owned and -controlled corporation, was required by law to declare cash dividends to the national government.

The P317 million represents half of PNOC's net income of P634 million last year.

Cunanan also said PNOC was expecting higher earnings in the long term as it was strengthening its investments and was actively pursuing joint ventures.

But the PNOC chief said the firm had also committed to pursue projects involving renewable energy sources, including solar power, which were not expected to immediately register earnings.

"Our solar projects may not earn immediate profits, but their impact on rural communities is immeasurable," he said.

Cunanan said that PNOC was projecting higher income this year given that Petron Corp. declared cash dividends of 30 centavos per share. PNOC owns 40 percent of Petron, a former subsidiary. ***Ronnel W. Domingo***

Sony aims to sustain 10% sales growth in RP

CONSUMER electronic giant Sony expects to sustain its 10 percent sales growth in the Philippines this fiscal year on the back of higher demand for digital audio-video products as more Filipinos snap up cool gadgets despite their high price tag.

Sony Philippines Inc. sales and marketing director Paul Shioda expressed confidence of maintaining the 10-percent growth pace last year despite the economic slowdown.

Shioda said that while Sony had slashed the prices of its inhouse television and hi-fi equipment to maintain its market share from prying rivals, it has stepped up the promotion of digital music players and video and still cameras to feed on the tech-crazed Filipinos hankering for the latest gizmos.

Sony kicked off its Digital Wonders promotion in the country by launching the world's smallest digital camcorders, an affordable digital still camera (Cybershot U), and high-speed net mini disk walkman recorders. These products provide mobility and connectivity to computers.

Sony Philippines assistant manager for sales and marketing Tess D. Baluyot said Sony's digital audio-video had been the main engine for growth in the Philippines. Sales of Sony's digital audio video line have been growing by twin-digit levels since 1999 posting a 24-percent rise in fiscal year ending March 2002. Baluyot expected the digital audio video line to grow by 30 percent this fiscal year.

She said the growing popularity of cool gadgets especially among young consumers had prompted the company to update its product line more regularly. The camcorders and mini-disk walkman were only introduced a few months ago. ***Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.***

US firm seeks gov't help in resolving piracy woe

CATERPILLAR Inc. of USA recently appealed to the Philippine government for help in dealing with local businessmen who have reportedly appropriated its internationally famous brand resulting in business losses of about $60 million.

The Illinois-based heavy equipment maker is also a leading manufacturer of personal items such as the popular Caterpillar line of shoes, shirts, belts, wallets and watches.

The company told the government that the Caterpillar-branded personal items now flooding the Philippine market "are not manufactured nor distributed by the international brand owners."

Caterpillar expressed concerns that the local consumers "may have been made to believe that these items are the original US items since they are priced on the same level as the authentic Caterpillar products."

The US firm said that investigations had shown that these products were manufactured in China and were reportedly branded by a local businessman with labels copied from the copyrighted Caterpillar USA visual brand. The local businessman is now facing several charges of product and brand counterfeiting before local courts.

"While this situation is grossly unfair to the Filipino consumers, it is also damaging to the reputation of the Philippines in the international market," Caterpillar pointed out.

PAL allots $15M for capex

FLAG carrier Philippine Airlines has earmarked $15 million for capital expenditures this fiscal year, with most of the amount going to aircraft reconfiguration and computerization.

In an interview after the stockholders' meeting yesterday, PAL senior vice president and chief finance officer Andrew Huang said there was no need to spend much money this year as all of the airline's existing assets could still be used.

"We have no major spending for the year aside from the regular system maintenance. There is no need for any major investments at this point. We don't want to overextend ourselves," he said.

Last year's capex was roughly at the same level.

In an earlier interview, PAL president Avelino Zapanta said that for the current fiscal year, the airline had already spent "millions of dollars" for information technology-related equipment and services.

Huang said PAL had to invest a huge amount of money in building its IT infrastructure and in automating a significant part of its operations to remain competitive and become more efficient.

PAL had to remain competitive for it to reach its P911-million net income target for this fiscal year. In the first four months of the current fiscal year, it posted over P1 billion in profits.

But this amount may still decline especially when the airline enters into the lean months of June to November, Huang said.

He added that the prices of jet fuel could also have a significant impact on the airline's yearend profit.

He said the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries was scheduled to meet in early September, the outcome of which could result in another revision in the airline's net income target.

"This may affect our forecast," he said.

To make sure that the airline will be able to hit its targets for the year, Zapanta said PAL was considering adding capacity and frequency to its existing routes.

Abigail L. Ho

Attention Mommies!
Increase your monthly Budget by as much as
₱ 20,000 cash per month for 3 months!
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30 Lucky Moms!
...and kiss your money woes goodbye!

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HOW TO JOIN:

1. Write name, age, signature, address and phone number on a piece of paper.
Note: Entries with incomplete info will be disqualified

2. Enclose in an envelope with any of the ff. Quaker packs:
a. (2) packs Quaker Oatmeal Quick Cooking or Instant 200g foil
b. (1) pack Quaker Oatmeal Quick Cooking or Instant 400g foil
c. (1) pack Quaker Oatmeal Quick Cooking or Instant 800g foil
d. (1) Quaker Cereal Beverage polybag/carton
e. (1) Quaker Oatmeal Porridge carton

3. Send / Mail entries to:

Quaker Oats Asia, Inc c/o
The Partnership Network, Inc.
Unit 711
IPI Buendia Tower
Sen. Gil Puyat, Pasay City
Or drop entries in Quaker Mom's Allowance drop boxes in selected supermarkets

4. Promotion Period: July 15 to Oct. 12, 2002

5. Raffle Draws:

Draws	Deadline for Entries	Raffle Draw
1st Draw	Aug. 10	Aug. 17
2nd Draw	Sep. 7	Sep. 14
Grand Draw	Oct. 12	Oct. 19

6. Raffle Prizes:
a. 1st Preliminary Draw - Ten (10) lucky Moms (3 from GMA, 2 from Luzon, 3 from Visayas and 2 from Mindanao) will receive P10,000.00 cash allowance per month for 3 months. Aside from the allowances, Fifty (50) Quaker gift packs will be given away.

b. 2nd Preliminary Draw - Ten (10) lucky Moms (3 from GMA, 2 from Luzon, 3 from Visayas and 2 from Mindanao) will receive P10,000.00 cash allowance per month for 3 months. Aside from the allowances, Fifty (50) Quaker gift packs will be given away.

c. Grand Draw - Ten (10) lucky Moms (3 from GMA, 2 from Luzon, 3 from Visayas and 2 from Mindanao) will receive P20,000.00 cash allowance per month for 3 months. Aside from the allowances, One Hundred (100) Quaker gift packs will be given away.

7. Each entry can only win once per draw. If an entry is drawn more than once, participants automatically win the prize with the higher value. Another entry will be re-drawn for the prize with the lower value.

8. All non-winning entries in the preliminary draws will be included in the grand raffle draw.

9. All winning entries will be drawn and validated by representatives of Quaker Oats Asia, Inc, its Advertising/Promo Agency and BFAD.

10. Winners will be notified thru registered mail.

11. Prizes not claimed within sixty (60) days from date of notification letter, will be forfeited, with prior approval of BFAD.

12. Winners must present the registered mail sent to them by Quaker Oats Asia, Inc. together with two (2) legally acceptable evidences of identification.

13. Employees of Quaker Oats Asia, Inc., their affiliates, distributors, advertising and promotional agents, BFAD representatives, as well as their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity are not qualified to join this promotion.

DOH-BFAD # 0538S.2002

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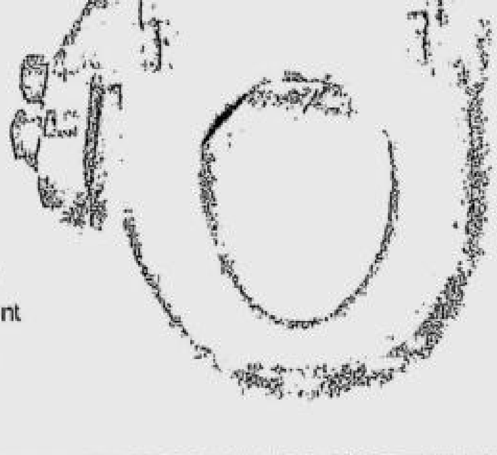

In a world of sophistication, nothing is preferred for a daily human routine than the customary hygiene that's made versatile and simple. That is why National Personal Hygiene System was designed with features that respond to every hygienic requirement, whether by the male or female member of the specie. With functional spouts in two shapes that keep jet sprays to a desired direction. And two shower control levers that delivers just the right amount of pressure for his or her kind of washing need. It's one home feature that makes bathrooms even more practical, National Personal Hygiene System. Human hygiene has never been this sophisticated.

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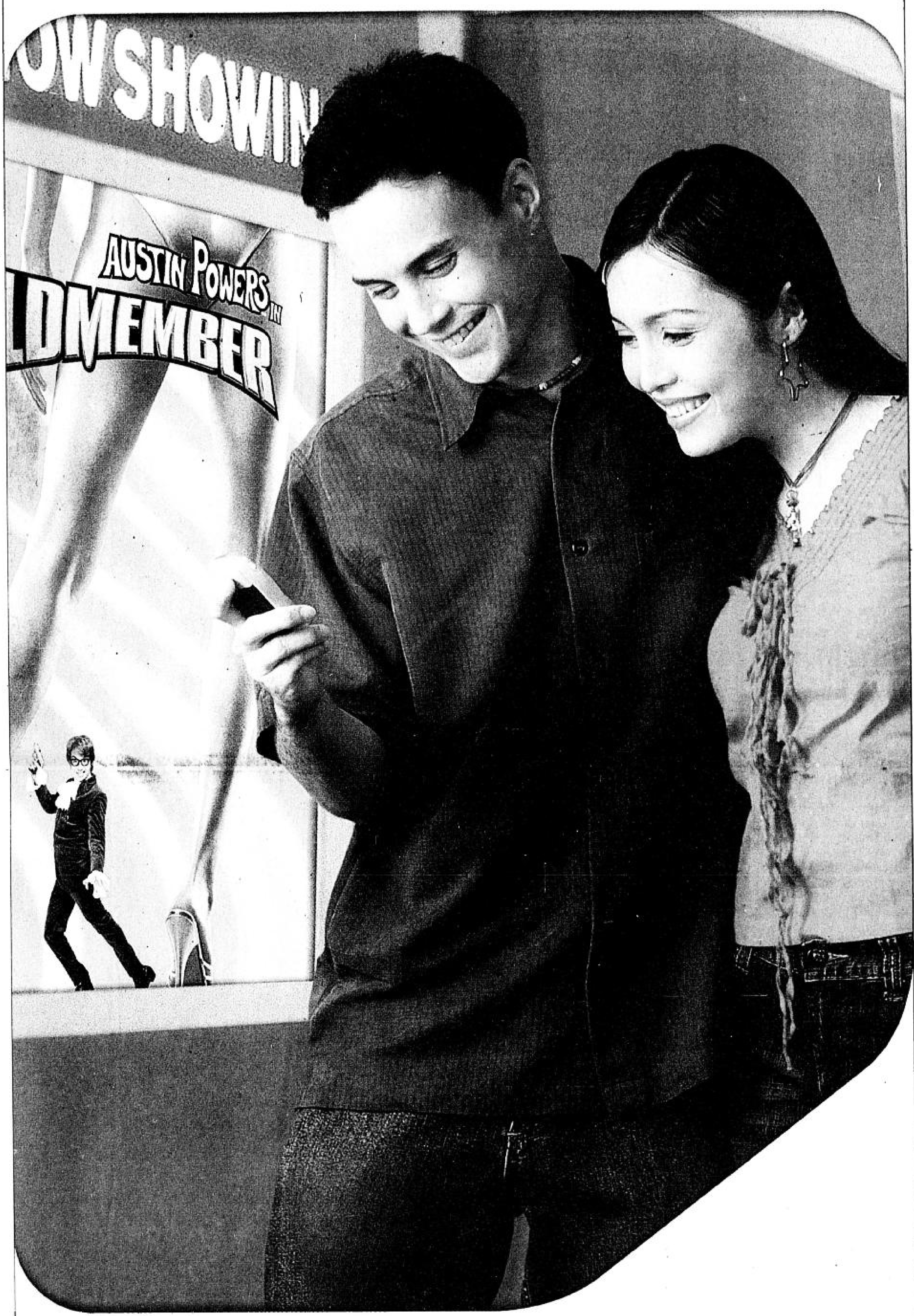

"Let's send the Austin Powers
FunPix and movie trailer to Farrah!
She's an Austin Powers fanatic, right?"

Activate SMART MMS now on your Nokia 7650 or Ericsson T681 by keying in SET MMS. For more details, key in FUNPIX. Send keywords to 211.

Austin Powers in Goldmember showing on Aug. 28. MTRCB Rating: PG-13

FunPix Animates Your SMART Celfone!

"Cartoons on my celfone?" Sounds impossible, doesn't it? Regular telephones have long promised a video element to them in order to complete the audio-visual experience of communicating between people despite long distances. With the evolution and popularity of the cellular phone however, it seems the landline's promise will be fulfilled by its mobile sibling instead. We've been able to send text messages and subsequently picture messages to give an additional element to the way we communicate. And although texts and pictures are nice, the prospect of colored or even animated messages is exciting, isn't it?

Well that dream has now become a reality! Whether it's the amazing Spider-Man, the groovy Austin Powers, or the colorful characters from "Slam Dunk", SMART MMS FunPix will bring these unique individuals in full color and complete audio and video in your celfone! As part of SMART MMS technology, SMART MMS FunPix brings new color and life to your SMART GSM celfone as no other technology has ever done before. Imagine seeing the hottest anime from the SMART Anime Mania as well as the biggest stars from the blockbusters of the SMART Cinema Club moving and shaking as animated screensavers all on your celfone.

Larger than life characters now move your world on the small screen through SMART MMS FunPix! Watch as agents J and K fight alien scum and save the world in the process in "Men in Black II". Be amazed as Steve, Mark, Big Bert, Little John, and Jamie volt in to form Voltes V. Swing to the funky grooves of Austin Powers and Foxxy Cleopatra from "Austin Powers in Goldmember". Simply key in FUNPIX and send to 211 for the different keywords and access numbers to gain access to images and animated screensavers that are ready for you to dowaload today. Breathe new life into your world by bringing the coolest anime characters, the freshest stars, the hottest celebrities and the wackiest cartoon characters into your celfone with SMART MMS FunPix today.

Say it with Feelings with SMART MMS CardToons

When it's all said and done, people just want to say "hi" to those most important to them. This holds true especially for Filipinos, a race famous worldwide for being sentimental and family-centric. When big holidays like Christmas or Valentine's Day draw near, there is never a dearth of greeting cards being sent and received going cross-country and abroad. This is just what we are, and we're proud of it. The arrival of e-mail has added an online element to greeting cards, as we can now send wishes and goodwill at an even faster rate, across the world.

Now comes the newest method of sending greetings, SMART MMS CardToons. As an integral part of SMART MMS technology, the latest and most entertaining way to greet a friend or loved one. It's amazing how messages can be so moving. More than just e-cards, SMART MMS CardToons gives you animated images in full color to go with your message. And only SMART gives you the widest array of cards to choose from. Choose from occasion to general, or even have your favorite Celebrity Pal grace your greetings.

Want Joyce Jimenez to greet your boss on his birthday? How about having Ruffa Mae Quintos congratulate your best friend on his recent promotion? With SMART CardToons, all these are possible! Just key in CARDTOONS and send to 211 for details on what images are available and which SMART Celebrity Pals can liven up your greeting.

We may or may not admit it, but Filipinos love getting greeting cards almost as much as we love giving them. They are an affirmation that somebody else cares about us and took the time to greet us on either a special occasion or just because "it felt good". SMART CardToons has made sending good feelings and wishes even simpler and faster.

SMART RealPix: Images Come to Life

Life is a beautiful thing. There are so many situations where the unique occurrences in life are so amazing, so astounding, that they just can't be captured or repeated. For ever since man can remember, he has strived to capture life, nature, and the beauty that comes with them through drawing and art. With the advent of the camera and photography, it became easier to capture this beauty as with a press of a button and a click on the camera, the picture was yours. Digital imaging has brought the world digital cameras and the ability to edit photographs through computers. Now if you take the capacity to take pictures and merge it with a mobile phone, what new groundbreaking piece of technology do you have?

The answer is SMART RealPix. SMART MMS introduces SMART RealPix, capturing and sharing life's moments with a few clicks on your SMART Nokia 7650 celfone. Life's joys have never been this easy to shoot and distribute. For once you've taken your digital picture, you can send SMART RealPix complete with audio and video to family and friends to complete the experience.

Unbelievable you say? Not so, courtesy of SMART MMS and your Nokia 7650, the latest mobile phone with a built-in camera! To activate your MMS feature, simply key in SET MMS and send to 211. Once you receive the settings, save them all and viola!, you're all set to capture memorable moments anytime, anywhere. You can travel abroad and send pictures back home for friends to see in a flash. Whether it's a nature trek or a mountain hike, SMART RealPix allows you to grab hold of nature's beauty and share it with those close to you in a way never before possible.

Forwarding good wishes, with the ease of a camera in the package of a celfone. With SMART RealPix, the simple joys of being with friends or having a meal with family can be imparted to those people who can't be with us. Precious moments like the birth of a child or a family reunion won't have to be missed anymore.

SMART RealPix, completing the experience of living at the ease of your fingertips.

ADVT

Ringtones of the Future from SMART MMS PolyTones

Ringtones tell other people what kind of personality you have. It's a given, it's a fact. With the customization of cellular phones, people have been stamping their personalities on their phones via operator logos, screensavers, celfone casing, but more obviously with their ringtones. Individuals spend hours composing ringtones for themselves or their friends, and saving them on their celfones. Whether it's the latest pop hits, movie themes, love songs, or classics, the ringing of the cellular phone to different beats has become commonplace in the Philippines.

As fun as the composing and listening to ringtones has become, it's only natural that technological improvements would mean even better quality for ringtones today and for the future. Well, the future has just arrived.

SMART MMS introduces SMART MMS Poly Tones, polyphonic ringtones that are as close to the real music or song can now be heard. From now on, you'll listen to the truth. Get calls that sound-as true as they can get with Polyphonic tones on SMART MMS. And only SMART can bring you the latest and hottest music. Choose from SMART's wide array of text tunes or download the hottest tracks from the movies via the SMART Cinema Club.

Do you want to hear John Mayer's "Back to You" with the illusion of more instruments? Or how about "Cry" from the hit movie "A Walk to Remember"? If you like Linkin Park, you can download the hit song 'My December" from their latest album - "Reanimation." Get all these, plus a colored image of the album, when you access Smart Music Link's MMS collection.

Wouldn't it be so much better to hear the tones with more than one beeping noise and the impression of a virtual orchestra instead? Key in POLYTONES and send to 211 for further details on what hot ringtones are available for download today.

SMART MMS Poly Tones is what ringtones were meant to be, with more instruments, more beats, and more lively than ever before. Enjoy the latest advancement in cellular phone audio with SMART MMS Poly Tones now!

SMART MMS TrafPix is Paving the Way!

Traffic. The mere mention of the word is enough to drive people crazy. In a country where everyone enjoys driving, yet everyone thinks they own the road, traffic has become a constant source of frustration, anger, and outright outrage. People go out of their way to avoid traffic in every way imaginable. Whether it's by using Metro Manila's sidestreets or wasting time at a mall while waiting for traffic to dissipate, Filipinos seem to be constantly looking for means to steer clear of the mess. Wouldn't it be great to know what traffic you might potentially be facing?

SMART MMS now presents a whole new means of being forewarned on the traffic situation. SMART MMS Traf Pix gives you digital snapshots from up to 20 strategic points across Metro Manila, all at the convenience of your own celfone! As part of SMART MMS technology, you can gain the upper hand in your constant struggle to avoid and evade the nightmare we know as traffic. Using your SMART MMS-enabled celfone, you can quickly access SMART MMS TrafPix at a few clicks of your celfone. If you're in a rush to make it to a luncheon in the area of EDSA and Buendia, you can be aware of how clogged the lanes might be by keying in MTRAF BUENDEDSA and send to 311. To learn more about how to use SMART's new traffic-awareness service through your MMS-ready SMART GSM celfone, key in MTRAF HELP and send to 311.

Concerned that friends and family might be caught in traffic as well? With SMART MMS Traf Pix, you can also forward those digital snapshots to your friends and loved ones so that they won't have to waste valuable time sitting through the bottlenecks across the metro. If you have to pick up the kids in the Greenhills area, you can be aware of where most of the cars are heading and make plans on what route is free to use whether it's via Guadalupe-Edsa or the Makati-Mandaluyong Bridge through SMART MMS TrafPix.

"Time is of the essence," as the old saying goes. And traffic is clearly a waste of time. Another saying states that "time is money." Being stuck in traffic thus keeps people from making money at their jobs. With SMART TrafPix and SMART MMS, you can save on all the time and money you might be wasting while caught in Metro Manila's traffic.

So get yourself hooked and set a clear path through traffic today!

Take advantage of these great offers from SMART!

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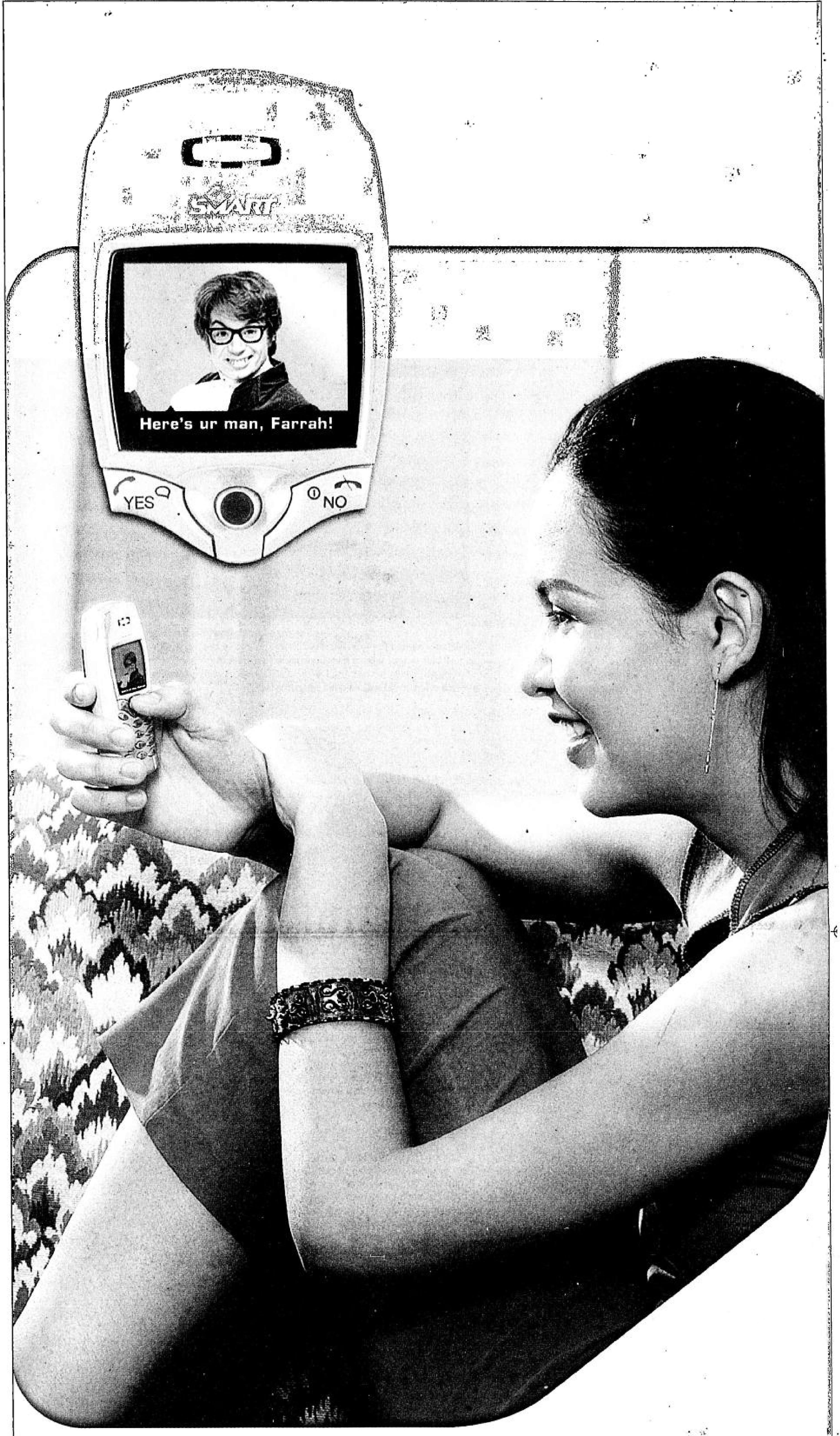

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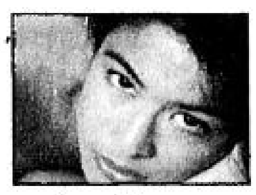
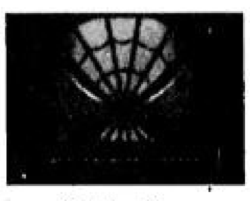


Joyce Jimenez
of Celebrity Pals



Spider-Man
of Cinema Club

michelle branch

Michelle Branch
of Music Link

Steve Armstrong
of Voltes V

Frank the Pug
of Cinema Club

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Creating desires outside the home

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

VENDING machines have been around for quite a while. The theory behind these structures that sell goods without your neighborhood vendor, is for manufacturers to create an "arm's length desire" for these products among consumers.

The machines have prompted one of the largest multinational firms in the country to expand the rationale for the machines to include "out of home initiatives". These initiatives were set with the objective to make these products as accessible outside the home as they are inside.

Nestlé Phils. Inc. SVP for the Foodservices Department Manuel T. Parroco, explains that selling its products "has evolved out of home." Out of home refers to the consumption of goods, normally consumed at home, outside the house, meaning, the restaurants.

"Branding outside the home is not as strong as in-home. Normally you don't know the brand or ingredient being used in a restaurant." Parroco explains.

Thus Nestlé decided to work at reinforcing its brands outside the house. This it did by setting up dispensers in restaurants.

In 1998, Nestlé FoodServices introduced its automated vending machines, the coin and bill operated machines dispensing Nestlé products in cups or cans. These AVMs offer hot and cold Nescafé and Milo as well as Nestea iced tea, and are installed in office buildings, hospitals and school canteens.

Nestlé has also set up dispensers in restaurants for its Nestlé Lemonade.

Restaurants can have the dispensers for free as long as they meet the minimum monthly consumption. The same with the coffee machines.

The success of the iced tea dispensers may be traced to the growth of quick service restaurants (QSRs) or fastfood restaurants.

These places target the young, who are the main market of the fast foods. Nestea is in most of these chains.

Lately, Parroco says Nestlé has been aggressive in pushing the coffee products because Nestlé recognizes that while Nescafé has a control of the market, there is a need to reinforce market dominance.

The move to aggressively pursue out-of-home consumption for coffee also stems from the following rationale:

Filipinos are spending more time outside the home and the longer commuting time has meant consumers have less time for the traditional cup of coffee in the morning.

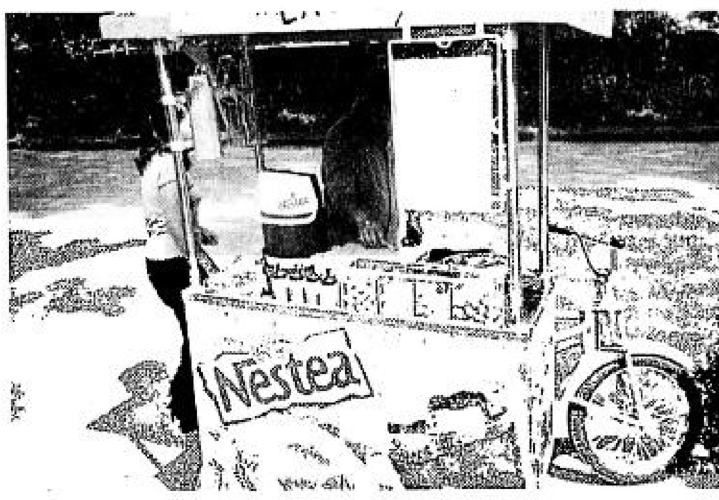
Thus, there was a need to find ways to reach out to the coffee drinkers wherever they are.

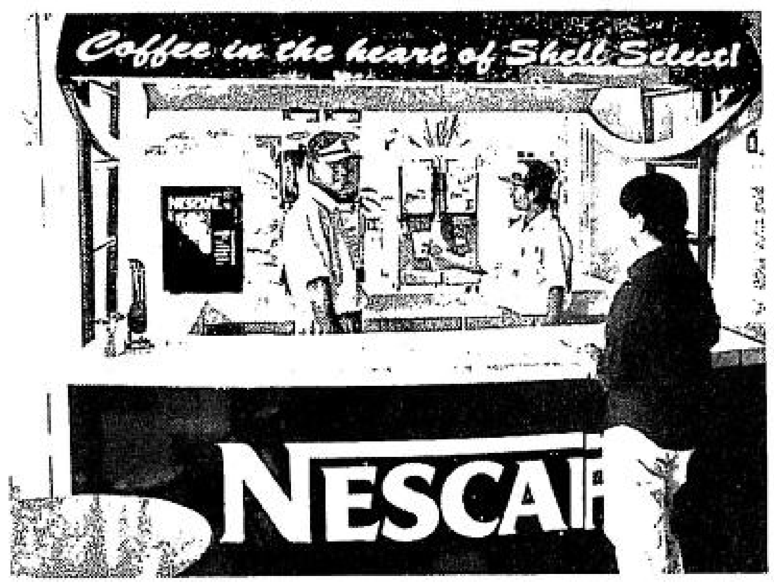
Coffee shops are among the fastest growing segments of the restaurant business, partly due to the entry of coffee specialty shops like Starbucks, Seattle's Best and home-grown ones like Figaro and the Coffee Beanery.

These shops showed the Filipino that there are many ways to drink coffee.

Nestlé actually came up with its own version of a specialty coffee shop with Cafe Nescafé, the first of which opened at the Rockwell Power Plant Mall. A second was opened at the Robinson's Place in Ermita.

NESCAFÉ
Frothé





MANUEL T. Parroco beside a coffee machine that produces different kinds of coffee. Photo on top right shows how they tied up with a squid ball vendor where Nestlé provided support in exchange for having their logo in the cart. Lower photo shows a coffee corner which also carries sandwiches and pastries. ROGER CARPIO

Cafe Nescafé offers various coffee concoctions—hot and cold —and pastries, sandwiches, just like the other coffee specialty shops.

The plan is to have about eight more this year in various parts of the metropolis. Cafe Nescafé is not run by Nestlé but by independent operators.

Other than the cafe, Nestlé has its Nescafé corners, Nescafé office coffee service, Nescafé pedi-carts and Nescafé cool mobile carts.

Parroco explains that all of the initiatives are handled by external groups. The vending machines, for example, are distributed and maintained by the Philippine Vending Corp.

The dispensers are also distributed and maintained by another group.

Parroco says Nestlé has service providers who take care of the delivery and maintenance of the machines.

Parrocco says Nestlé also provides other initiatives to their such as pest control programs, hygiene and management seminars and on-site inspection.

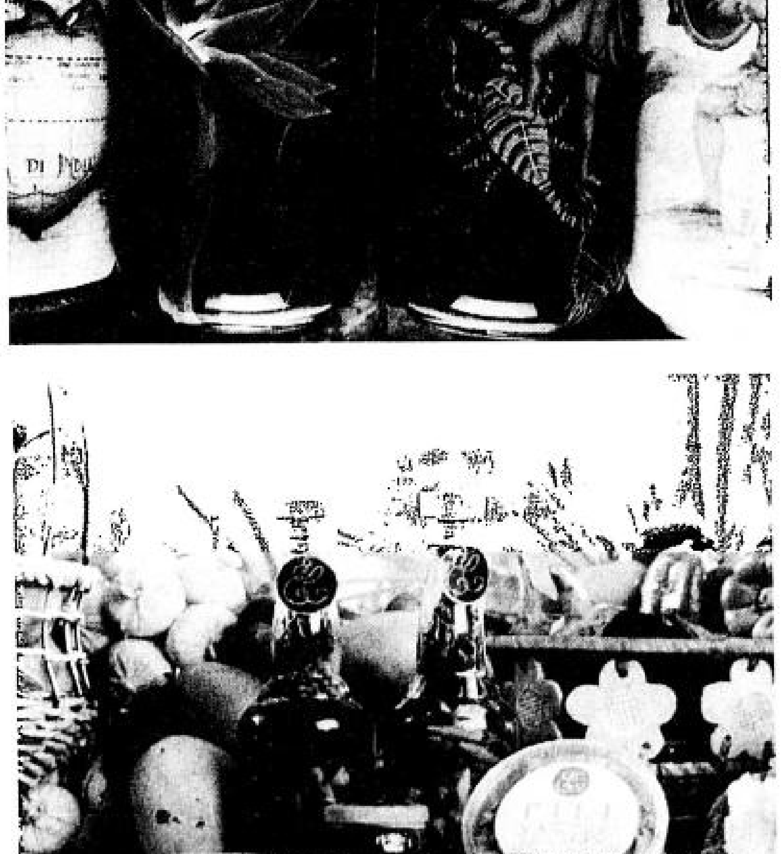
Nestlé is even willing to help develop the menu for a new restaurant.

And he says Nestle's operators and service providers are trained to provide quality services to their consumers.

"To be successful in our out of home initiatives, you have to be a total solutions provider," says Parroco.

Making the Negros name ring around the world

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao



NEGROS produces much more than food. It also manufactures ceramics, fashion accessories and houseware. Some of these products would be showcased during the Negros Trade Fair to be held at the Megamall from Oct. 2 to 6.

WHEN people think about the Negros provinces, thoughts of piaya, barquillos, bachoy and the chicken *inasal* come to mind.

The Negros provinces, however, produce much more than just food and the numerous other products are what the Association of Negros Producers want to showcase to Manila and export markets in its annual trade trade fair.

Doreen Alicia G. Peña, president of the Association of Negros Producers Inc., says the Negros provinces are actually known in increasingly wider circles for its houseware, handmade paper, ceramics, baskets, furniture, garments, costume jewelry and even furniture.

Many of these products decorate homes in the United States, Japan, Africa, Middle East, Scandinavia, Europe and other areas in Asia and for many of the exporters, Manila has been the jumpoff point.

"Many people still go to the trade fair because of the food, so it is a pleasant surprise for them to see that there are so many other products that the association produces," Peña says.

The Association of Negros Producers came about in the 1980s as a result of the sugar crisis which left more than 150,000 workers displaced.

The crisis inspired 15 Negrense women based in Manila to think of ways to contribute to the crippled economy of their home province through the House of Negros Foundation.

This later became the Association of Negros Producers which was founded in 1988 as a non-stock, non-profit organization composed of professionals, entrepreneurs and housewives.

Since then, the association now has about 80 member-firms of which 20 percent are exporters.

"One of the strengths of the association is that everybody is committed to helping the people from Negros and to helping people have a decent livelihood. Being small, we can easily mobilize," she says.

The association was organized for its member-producers to:

MEMBERS of the Association of Negros Producers are one in the mission to make Negros stand for world-class quality and design

- represent, promote and lobby for the interest of the small and medium-scale producers in Negros Occidental
- encourage cooperation among producers, government and business sectors here and abroad
- promote the marketing and quality image of Negros-made products, and
- promote the culutre of productivity and technological upgrading of the manufacturing sector in Negros.

The unity of purpose has enabled the association to go into projects such as the Negros Showroom in Bacolod which has been declared by the Bureau of Domestic Trade Promotions as the No. 1 trade house in the Philippines.

The Negros Showroom displays the products of association's member-producers and serves as their business center.

The association has also set up The Designers Guild Philippines Negros Island Inc. which is committed to the development of a design-oriented culture that would push Negros in the international market and make it a major design center in Asia.

Christina Gaston, president of the Designers Guild, says the group goes around to help provide design concepts to the producers in a bid to widen their market and increase market acceptability of their products.

One of the latest projects is the Negrense Island Inc., a private firm set up to promote Negros products under a single brand name—Negrense Island Inc.

"We want the people to connect the Negrense products with creativity, quality and craftsmanship. People saw we are creative by nature so we want to promote that," Peña says.

Peña says that just like any organization, there are disagreements and differences in opinion.

These are easily resolved, Pena says, because the association is committed to make the Negros name ring around the world.

Text challenge on even without Pope

By Abigail L. Ho

THE ABSENCE of Pope John Paul II from the 4th World Meeting of Families to be held next year may have put a kink in the preparations for the 4th World Meeting of Families, but the cellular service providers are committed to forging ahead with their plans.

Cellular service providers Globe Telecom Inc. and Smart Communications Inc. assured their subscribers and the organizers of the 4th World Meeting of Families that the text-based activities they launched would still continue despite the Vatican's announcement that Pope John Paul II would no longer come to the country in January.

The Meeting of Families was initiated by the Pope and organized by the Council for the Family in the Vatican. It was supposed to be hosted by the Pope but, due to some health problems, the Vatican announced that he would no longer be able to do so.

Despite this, Smart's "Light 4M Family Candles" and "Lolek Trivia Challenge" and Globe's "Rally Families for the Pope" and "Unscramble Trivia Quiz" under its "Vatican Texter" campaign will still push through, officials of the two companies said yesterday.

Smart's public affairs head Ramon Isberto and Globe's assistant vice president for public relations Jones Campos agreed that the Meeting of Families would still push through even without the Pope and that it would still need support in terms of funding and information dissemination.

He added that this would be the first time that the event would be held in Manila so the Philippine event organizers, led by Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, need as much help as they could get from entities that were willing to take part in the preparations and in the event itself.

Both Globe and Smart launched text campaigns and text-based trivia games to help raise funds for the Meeting of Families. Portions of the funds that would be raised from the text messages would be donated to the event organizers.

Both Isberto and Campos also noted that the formats for their text campaigns and trivia games would remain the same, even Smart's Lolek Trivia Challenge, which was specially conceptualized to honor the Pope.

Campos also pointed out that January was still a long way off and that the Pope's health could still improve in the next four months.

Globe's Vatican Texter campaign will run from Aug. 15 to Jan. 19, 2003. In its "Unscramble Trivia Quiz," subscribers need to unscramble words that are, at the same time, answers to trivia question about the Vatican, the Church, the Bible and the Meeting of Families.

Its "Rally Families for the Pope" campaign, on the other hand, enables Globe and Touch Mobile subscribers to create their own text "families" or "groups" and even invite other subscribers to join.

Smart's Lolek Trivia Challenge will give subscribers the chance to answer questions about the Pope. Its "Light 4M Family Candles" will allow its 7 million subscribers to light "virtual candles" for the success of the event.

For every virtual family candle lit, P10 will go to a "virtual donation box" that would help provide funds for the event.

Green thumb grows business out of 'poor man's apples'

By Gia Damaso-Dumo
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

LOMBOY (right), with Bauang agriculturist Napoleon Dumo, shows off ripe guapples that weigh about 500 grams each. GIA D. DUMO

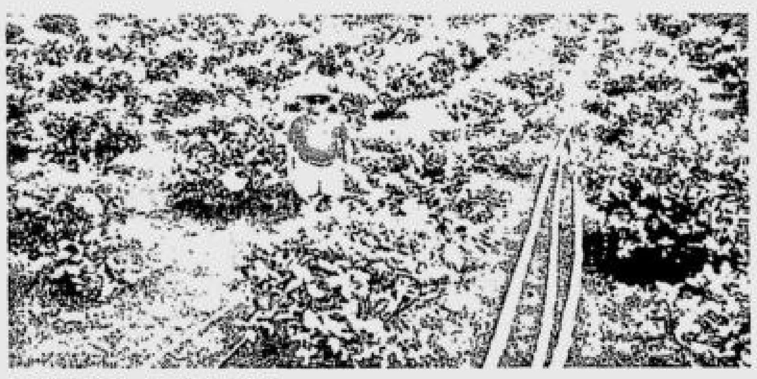
BAUANG, La Union—Avelino Lomboy is no doubt Bauang's most famous green thumb.

The pioneer of the green grape industry that thrived here in the 1970s, and the developer of the now popular guapple in the 1980s, Lomboy has turned toilsome agriculture into a tireless and prosperous agriventure.

After the local grape industry virtually collapsed in the face of trade liberalization, Lomboy did not rest from learning and exploring new things in his field.

Sometime in 1987, he brought home some guapple seeds from Taiwan and experimented on planting them in his farm.

Guapple is genetically improved through crossbreeding. It is pear-shaped to round and, compared with the native or common guava, is bigger, fleshier and crunchier. Indeed, at P25 to P45 a kilogram, it could well be the poor man's apple.



LOMBOY in his field of dreams

Adaptable to almost any type of soil, but most suited to clay-loam, a typical guapple tree grows to about 4.5 to 6 meters in height. But Lomboy had devised a system by which the tree is maintained at only 3 to 4 feet.

Grown like a bush, spraying and pruning the plant and bagging its fruits has become an easy task. The plant has also become more resistant to typhoons, Lomboy explained.

Lomboy's guapples are also available all year round, unlike the typical guava that only bears fruit during the rainy season.

No competition

As an added advantage, unlike the local grapes that easily lost to the more luscious and cheaper imported varieties on the market, guapples have virtually no competition.

"There are simply no imported guapples in the market. Besides, the production of this whole town could not even meet the daily requirements of the province, which consumes some 250-300 kg of guapples a day," Lomboy said.

Growing guapples can be a viable business venture. It is ideal for small farms since it is a high-value crop. A 1-hectare plantation can be planted to 1,600 guapple trees that are 2.2 meters apart.

At an investment cost of about P100 per tree, the guapple will usually start yielding fruit on its second year and live for an average of 10 years, Lomboy said.

From its second year, a single guapple tree can yield 25 kg; in the succeeding years, it can yield up to 50 kg. Like most other commercial cash crops, a little investment in farm inputs—such as organic and chemical fertilizers, foliar fertilizers and pesticides—and farming technology are also required.

Being an agriculturist and former agribusiness consultant, Lomboy edges out competition because he knows his stuff and uses it to the full to produce better looking, better tasting and larger fruits that weigh an average of 500 grams apiece.

Right strategies

"It is just a matter of outlook. A small guy can be a big winner if he adopts the right strategies," he said.

In the whirl of aggressive nationwide tourism promotion in the name of Visit Philippine 2003, Bauang's niche is made not only in eco-tourism -- being an established beachgoers' haven -- but also in agro-tourism.

"Tourism is very viable and is one of our main industries. But we also have to pursue the development of other industries in support of tourism, like the guapple," according to Napoleon Dumo, the town's agriculturist.

Thus, Bauang's many guapple plantations along the highway, particularly in Barangays Santiago, Bagbag and Urayong, are also spruced up as tourist attractions.

Lomboy's farm has been adopted by the local government as a demonstration farm catering to prospective entrepreneurs, travelers and researchers.

Value added tax: A procedural update

TAX-FILES

By Catherine A. Paragua
SGV & Co.

THE FINANCE department issued Revenue Regulations No. 8-2002 last June 13 which amended, among others, the following: (1) quarterly VAT return, (2) mode of remittance of VAT due from non-residents, and (3) the quarterly Summary List of Sales and Summary List of Purchases.

Filing of return and payment of VAT

The most significant revision is the shift in VAT quarter from calendar quarter to taxable quarter. Thus, the filing of the VAT quarterly return is now within 25 days following the close of the taxable quarter which is not necessarily the calendar quarter.

A new form shall likewise be used, the April 2002 version of BIR Form 2550Q.

This shift from calendar quarter to taxable quarter shall start in the fiscal quarter ending July 31, 2002, which was due for filing on or before Aug. 25, 2002.

Amounts reflected in the monthly VAT declarations for the first two months of the quarter shall still be included in the quarterly VAT return reflecting the cumulative figures for the taxable quarter.

With regard to the monthly VAT declarations, the period to file and pay the taxes is still 20 days after the end of each month and 25 days for taxpayers availing of the electronic filing and payment system (EFPS).

For taxpayers who are retiring from business or whose VAT registration has been canceled, they are now required to notify the concerned BIR aside from filing a final quarterly return and payment of the tax.

The taxpayer is required to file a consolidated quarterly VAT return or monthly VAT declaration to cover the head office as well as the branches.

Note, however, that under Section 236 of the Tax Code, a taxpayer maintaining a head office, branch or facility is required to register with the Revenue District Office (RDO) having jurisdiction over the head office, branch or facility.

Thus, a head office may be registered in one RDO and its branch office with another. RR 8-2002 is not clear as to where the consolidated return or declaration should be filed since both the head office and the branch office are duly registered.

It is logical to conclude that the consolidated quarterly VAT return or monthly VAT declaration should be filed with the RDO having jurisdiction over the head office since it is the head office which files the tax returns reflecting the consolidated results of the operations.

Mode of remittance of VAT from non-residents

A 10-percent VAT is required to be withheld on the following payments:

(1) Lease or use of properties or property rights owned by non-residents;

(2) Services rendered to local insurance companies, with respect to reinsurance premiums payable to non-residents; and

(3) Other services rendered in the Philippines by non-residents.

The obligation to withhold is imposed on the government, or any of its political subdivisions and agencies, including government-owned or -controlled corporations (GOCCs) as well as private corporations, individuals, estates and trusts, whether large or non-large taxpayers.

In remitting the withheld VAT, the withholding agent shall use BIR Form No. 1600—Remittance Return of Value Added Tax and Other Percentage Taxes Withheld.

The VAT withheld and paid for the non-resident (remitted using BIR Form No.1600), which VAT is passed on to the resident withholding agent by the non-resident recipient of the income, may be claimed as input tax by the VAT-registered withholding agent upon filing his own VAT return, subject to the rule on allocation of input tax among taxable sales, zero-rated sales and exempt sales. The duly filed BIR Form No. 1600 is the proof or documentary substantiation for the claimed input tax or input VAT.

Nonetheless, if the resident withholding agent is a non-VAT taxpayer, the passed-on VAT by the non-resident recipient of the income, evidenced by the duly filed BIR Form No. 1600, shall form part of the cost of purchased services.

This may be treated either as an "asset" or "expense," whichever is applicable, of the resident withholding agent.

Summary list of sales and quarterly list of purchases

Prior to the issuance of RR 8-2002, all persons liable for VAT were required to submit quarterly summary lists of sales and purchases, except operators of supermarkets and department stores, retailers selling directly to consumers, hotels, restaurants, lending investors, pre-need companies, non-life insurance and common carriers, who were required to submit only a quarterly summary list of purchases.

Under RR 8-2002, however, the Quarterly Summary List of Sales and the Quarterly Summary List of Purchases is mandatory only for taxpayers whose sales or purchases exceed P2.5 million for total sales (i.e., taxable net of VAT, zero-rated, exempt) and P1 million for total purchases (i.e., taxable net of VAT, zero-rated, exempt) for the taxable quarter.

Once any of the taxable quarters' total sales and/or purchases exceed the threshold amounts, the taxpayer, shall also be required to submit the summary lists for the next three succeeding quarters regardless of whether or not such succeeding taxable quarter sales and/or purchases exceed the threshold amounts.

Another amendment brought about by RR 8-2002 is generally on the format of the list. Under the old regulations, the lists must be submitted in hard copies.

With the issuance of RR 8-2002, the summary lists must be in diskette form for all taxpayers duly covered. The lists shall be submitted to the appropriate RDO or Large Taxpayers District Office (LTDO) or Large Taxpayers Assistance Division (LTAD) on or before the 25th day of the month following the close of the taxable quarter.

Information required

I. Summary list of sales. The Summary List of Sales must contain the monthly total sales generated from buyers/customers. For regular buyers/customers (i.e., those who are engaged in business or exercise of profession and those with whom the taxpayer has entered into at least six transactions either in the previous year or current year), the sales shall be included in the list regardless of the amount of sales per buyer/customers.

On the other hand, sales generated from casual buyers/customers (who are engaged in business or exercise of profession but did not qualify as regular buyers/customers), only those with individual sales amounting to P100,000 or more must be included in the list.

As to sales made to buyers not engaged in business or practice of profession like foreign embassies, information as to them is not required to be included as of yet. However, a separate revenue issuance may, later on, be issued covering such sales.

The Quarterly Summary List of Sales to Regular Buyers/Customers and Casual Buyers/Customers and Output Tax shall reflect the following:

a) BIR-registered name of the buyer who is engaged in business/exercise of profession;

b) TIN of the buyer (only for sales that are subject to VAT);

c) Exempt Sales

d) Zero-rated Sales;

e) Sales Subject to VAT (exclusive of VAT); and

f) Output Tax (VAT on sales).

II. Summary List of Purchases. The Summary List of Purchases consists of schedules of purchases from both local and foreign suppliers.

(1) For the Quarterly Summary List of Local Purchases and Input Tax, the following information must be reflected:

a) BIR-registered name of the seller/supplier/service-provider;

b) Address of seller/supplier/service-provider;

c) TIN of the seller;

d) Exempt purchases;

e) Zero-rated purchases

f) (i) purchases subject to VAT (exclusive of VAT) on services,

(ii) purchases subject to VAT (exclusive of VAT) on capital goods, and

(iii) purchases subject to VAT (exclusive of VAT) on goods other than capital goods

g) Creditable Input Tax*

h) Non-creditable Input Tax*

* Items (g) and (h) are to be computed not on a per supplier basis but on a per month basis.

(2) For the Quarterly Summary List of Importations, the following must be reflected:

a) The import entry declaration number;

b) Assessment/Release Date;

c) The date of importation;

d) The name of the seller;

e) Country of origin;

f) Dutiable Value;

g) All charges before release from customs' custody;

h) Landed cost: (i) exempt

(ii) taxable (subject to VAT);

i) VAT paid;

j) Official receipt number of the official receipt evidencing payment of the tax; and

k) Date of VAT payment.

For the claimed input tax arising from services rendered in the Philippines by non-residents, no summary list is required to be submitted.

Rules in the presentation of the required information

(1) The summary schedules of sales to regular buyers/customers shall not only refer to sales subject to VAT but shall likewise include exempt and zero-rated sales.

(2) The summary schedule of purchases likewise shall not only refer to purchases subject to VAT but also to exempt and zero-rated purchases.

(3) The names of sellers/suppliers/service-providers and the buyers/customers shall be alphabetically arranged and presented in the schedules.

(4) All the summary lists or schedules mentioned above for submission to the BIR shall mention, as heading or caption of the report/list/schedule, the BIR-registered name, trade name, address and TIN of the taxpayer-filer and the covered period of the report/list/schedule.

(5) Failure to mention the TIN of the buyer in the "Schedule of Sales" would not have any effect on the seller but may be a ground for the audit of the records of the buyer or of both the buyer and the seller.

(6) The quarterly summary lists shall reflect the consolidated monthly transactions per seller/supplier or buyer for each of the three months as the VAT taxable quarter of the taxpayer as reflected in the quarterly VAT return except the summary list of importation which shall show the individual transactions for the month for each month of the taxable quarter/VAT quarter. Thus, the period covered by the summary list required to be submitted to the BIR shall be the covered period of the corresponding quarterly VAT return

(7) The Quarterly Summary List of Sales and Purchases shall be submitted in magnetic form using 3.5-inch floppy diskettes following the format prescribed by RR 8-2002.

Procedure and format

To be considered as duly filed or submitted, the diskettes containing the lists must be readable upon submission. The lists shall conform to the electronic format to be prescribed in a Revenue Memorandum Circular (RMC), using any of the following:

(1) Excel format;

(2) Taxpayer's own extract programs; or

(3) The Data Entry Module developed by the BIR that will be available upon request or by downloading from the BIR's website, with the corresponding job aid to be provided in a RMC to be issued by the BIR.

Taxpayers who would choose 1 or 2, must use a validation module developed by the BIR, which can either be downloaded from the BIR website or made available in diskette form upon request.

Penalty

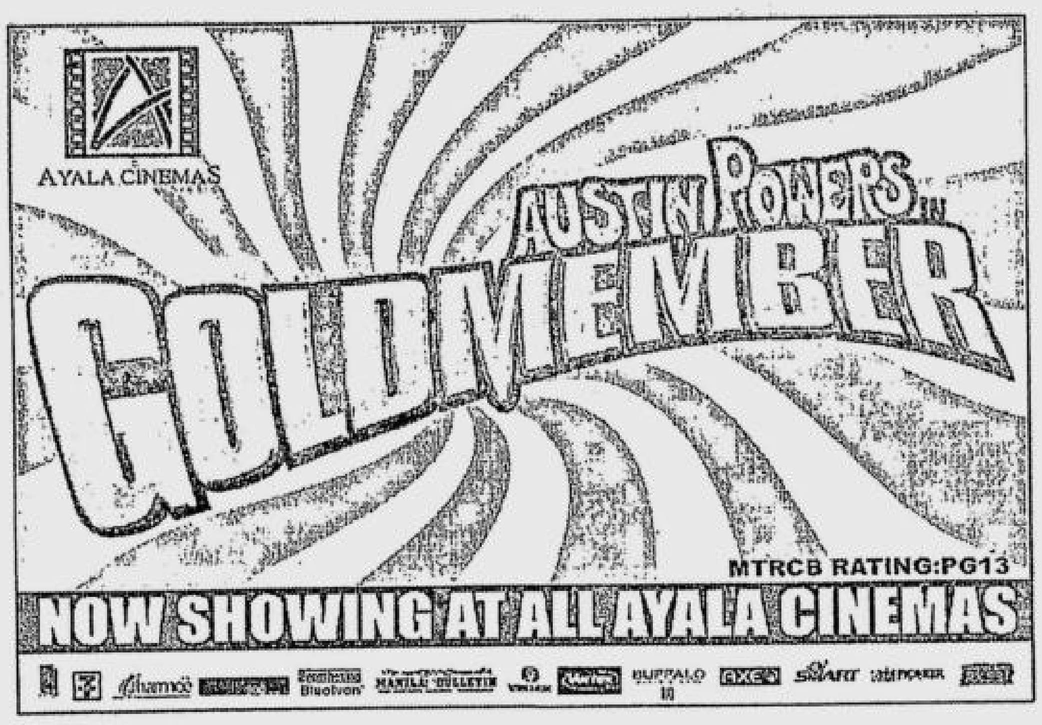
An administrative penalty of P1,000 for each failure to supply the lists or information required by RR 8-2002 on or before the 25th day of the month following the close of the taxable quarter shall be imposed on the taxpayer, upon notice and demand by the commissioner of internal revenue.

For this purpose, the failure to supply the required information for each buyer or seller of goods and services shall constitute one failure subject to the penalty.

However, the aggregate amount to be imposed for all such failures during a taxable year shall not exceed P25,000. This penalty is not imposed if the failure was due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect of the taxpayer.

After payment of the penalty or compromise, the taxpayer is still required to submit the lists or information. A subpoena for the submission of the required documents shall be issued on the second offense. A third offense shall set the motion for a criminal prosecution.

With the issuance of RR 8-2002, the BIR will have a more effective and efficient way of monitoring transactions covered by VAT.



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4 (SDDS)	TRIPLE X
5	DERAILED
6 (DOLBY)	SIGNS
7 (DTS)	AUSTIN POWER-3
8	SEX & ZEN
9	BIGLANG LIKO

Gotesco Commonwealth
tel 951.0082

4	GAMITAN
5 (SDDS)	TRIPLE X
6 (DTS)	JOLOGS
7 (DOLBY)	SIGNS
8	AUSTIN POWER-3

Gotesco Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	JOLOGS
2	AUTIN POWER-3
3 (DTS)	SIGNS
4	GAMITAN
5 (SDDS)	TRIPLE X

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	JOLOGS

Sampaquita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	JOLOGS

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	SEX & ZEN
Lords	HIYAS
Jennet	

MARKETPLACE Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	JOLOGS
2	GAMITAN
3	TRIPLE X

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	SIGNS
2	TRIPLE X
3	AUSTIN POWER
4	JOLOGS
5	GAMITAN

FRC Cinema
(Talaba Bacoor Cavite)

1	
2	

Berma Cinema
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

1	TRIPLE X
2	JOLOGS

THE CENTER OF ENTERTAINMENT
Araneta

MALL CINEPLEX
tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400

1	JOLOGS
2	GAMITAN
3 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	AUSTIN POWER
4 (SDDS)	SIGNS
5 (DTS)	TRIPLE X
6	UNFAITHFUL
7	DERAILED

Farmers Plaza CINEMAS
tel 911.3101 loc. 821 8242 8400

1	SIGNS
2	DERAILED

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	GAMITAN
2	JOLOGS
3 (DTS)	TRIPLE X

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7983

1	JOLOGS
2 (DTS)	GAMITAN
3 (DOLBY)	TRIPLE X
4	SIGNS

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	JOLOGS
2 (DOLBY)	SIGNS
3 (DTS)	SPIRIT
4	TRIPLE X

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	JOLOGS
2	LILO & STITCH
3	TRIPLE X
4	

Cinema 2000 MetroTown
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

1	SWEETEST THING
2	JOLOGS
3 (DOLBY)	TRIPLE X
4 (DTS)	INSOMNIA

Magic Star Cinema
(Tarlac City) tel (045) 611.4305

1	SWEETEST THING
2	JOLOGS
3	TRIPLE X

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1	SIGNS
2	SEX & ZEN
3	GAMITAN
4	JOLOGS

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	TRIPLE X
2	JOLOGS
3 (DTS)	SIGNS
4	GAMITAN
5	SPIRIT

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	JOLOGS
2	SIGNS
3	GAMITAN

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 249.2558

1	JOLOGS
2	SIGNS
3	GAMITAN

Mega Center Mall
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3233

1	LILO & STITCH
2	BIGLANG LIKO
3	JOLOGS
4	SAGAD

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	GAMITAN
2 (DTS)	RESERVE

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	TRIPLE X
2	GAMITAN
3	JOLOGS

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

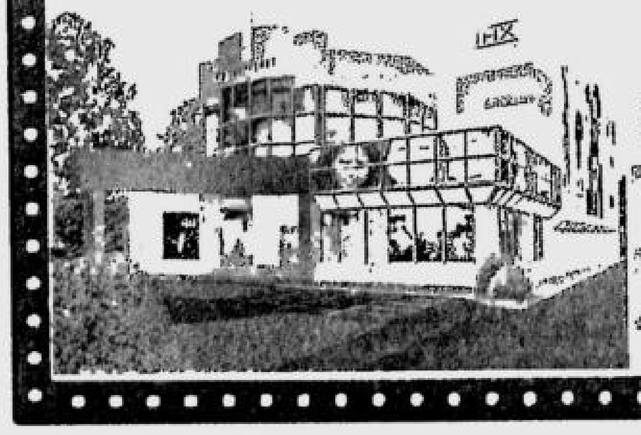
1	SWEETEST THING
2	GAMITAN
3	JOLOGS
4	TRIPLE X

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY)	TRIPLE X
2	GAMITAN
3 (DTS)	SIGNS
4	INSOMNIA

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice.

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY dts SDDS



PREMIERE CINEMA NOW SHOWING
SCREENING HOURS (WED, THURS)
5:50PM, 7:50PM, 9:50PM

AUSTIN POWERS GOLDMEMBER

SM CINEMA
SM Dial-A-Movie Tel. 633-9999
NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR
4173866

1	DERAILED
2	SPIRIT
3	TRIPLE X
4	SIGNS
5	AUSTIN POWERS
6	JOLOGS
7	GAMITAN
8	UNFAITHFUL

SM CENTERPOINT
7149522 -7161416

1	JOLOGS
2	UNFAITHFUL
3	SIGNS
4	SPIRIT
5	TRIPLE X
6	GAMITAN
7	DERAILED
8	KILLING ME SOFTLY
9	AUSTIN POWERS...
10	JOLOGS

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	JOLOGS
2	SPIRIT
3	LILO & STITCH
4	SIGNS
5	TRIPLE X
6	GAMITAN
7	AUSTIN POWERS
8	DERAILED
9	UNFAITHFUL
10	KILLING ME SOFTLY
11	INSOMNIA
12	JOLOGS

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1	AUSTIN POWERS
2	SWEETEST THING
3	LILO & STITCH
4	SIGNS
5	INSOMNIA
6	TRIPLE X
7	SPIRIT
8	UNFAITHFUL
9	JOLOGS
10	GAMITAN
11	DERAILED
12	JOLOGS

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1	TRIPLE X
2	DERAILED
3	SIGNS
4	TRIPLE X
5	UNFAITHFUL
6	SPIRIT
7	INSOMNIA
8	GAMITAN
9	JOLOGS
10	AUSTIN POWERS
11	JOLOGS
12	KILLING ME SOFTLY

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1	DERAILED
2	UNFAITHFUL
3	GAMITAN
4	JOLOGS
5	AUSTIN POWERS
6	SIGNS
7	SPIRIT
8	TRIPLE X

SM SOUTHMALL
8066888

1	SPIRIT
2	DERAILED
3	AUSTIN POWERS
4	SIGNS
5	INSOMNIA
6	LILO & STITCH
7	JOLOGS
8	TRIPLE X
9	GAMITAN
10	UNFAITHFUL

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1	UNFAITHFUL
2	KILLING ME SOFTLY
3	LILO & STITCH
4	MORE ANTS IN THE PANTS
5	SPIRIT
6	GAMITAN
7	JOLOGS
8	TRIPLE X

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1	GAMITAN
2	CLOSED
3	SPIRIT
4	TRIPLE X
5	JOLOGS
6	POWERPUFF GIRLS
7	CLOSED
8	KILLING ME SOFTLY

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1	SIGNS
2	AUSTIN POWERS
3	SPIRIT
4	GAMITAN
5	TRIPLE X
6	JOLOGS

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1	GAMITAN
2	SIGNS
3	JOLOGS
4	TRIPLE X

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1	SIGNS
2	GAMITAN
3	JOLOGS
4	AUSTIN POWERS

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

1	TRIPLE X
2	JOLOGS
3	GAMITAN
4	BIGLANG LIKO
5	ORANGE COUNTY
6	SPIRIT

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

SOON TO OPEN!
4 NEW
STATE-OF-THE-ART
VISION & SOUND

THE PODIUM CINEMA
633-8070

1	**SIGNS** 11:15 FS/11:45 MF/2:00/4:15/6:30/8:45/ 10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:45 END
2	**AUSTIN POWERS IN GOLDMEMBER** 11:05 MF/1:00/3:00/5:00/7:00/9:00/ 10:35 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:35 END

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee : P100.00 • Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
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MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS
@ Robinsons Malls
NOW SHOWING

Galleria 632-9115-16
633-7641 loc. 279

1 THX	SIGNS
2	AUSTIN POWERS
3	SIGNS
4	SPIRIT
5	JOLOGS
6	TRIPLE X
7	GAMITAN
8	DERAILED
9	UNFAITHFUL
10	LILO & STITCH

Ermita 536-7809-12

1	SIGNS
2	TRIPLE X
3	GAMITAN
4	DERAILED
5	JOLOGS
6	SPIRIT
7	AUSTIN POWERS

Metro East - Marcos hway 682-8193 / 8280

1	TRIPLE X
2	SPIRIT
3	AUSTIN POWERS
4	DERAILED
5	UNFAITHFUL
6	GAMITAN
7	SIGNS
8	JOLOGS

Novaliches 935-3229-30

1	TRIPLE X
2	SPIRIT
3	AUSTIN POWERS
4	DERAILED
5	UNFAITHFUL
6	GAMITAN
7	SIGNS
8	JOLOGS

Imus 471-8188 / 875-3838

1	TRIPLE X
2	SPIRIT
3	AUSTIN POWERS
4	SIGNS
5	GAMITAN
6	JOLOGS

Bacolod 441-0453 / 0459

1	THE SWEETEST THING
2	JOLOGS
3	TRIPLE X
4	KILLING ME SOFTLY
5	ABOUT A BOY
6	THE THIRD WHEEL

Iloilo 336-8077-78

1	THE SWEETEST THING
2	TRIPLE X
3	SPIRIT
4	POWER PUFF GIRLS
5	JOLOGS
6	ORANGE COUNTY

Star Mills- Sn Fernando, Pamp. 875-1927
961 5318 / 5270

1	GAMITAN
2	SPIRIT
3	SIGNS
4	JOLOGS
5	SORORITY BOYS
6	SIGNS

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soon to open.

how-2-reach-us:
email: htc@netasia-mnl.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com
call-a-movie 536-7812

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

'Wolfgirl' now available on video

C INTERACTIVE Digital Entertainment releases another great thriller, "Wolfgirl," on original VHS and VCD available at video shops and record bars.

"Wolfgirl" is now available at Video City and local video boutiques or at SM Records Bars, Odyssey, Astrovision, O Music Rockwell and New Radio City.

For inquiries, call C Interactive hotline at 245-5011 to 12 (Manila), (032) 412-1948 (Cebu) or (082) 221-0405 (Davao).

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED Some scenes may be inappropriate for children under age 13.

VIN DIESEL
A NEW BREED OF SECRET AGENT
XXX
REVOLUTION STUDIOS
sony.com/TripleX

Non-Stop Wide-Screen Action!

xXx – a new breed of secret agent

After Schwarzenegger and Stallone, comes a new kind of action hero in a new kind of high-adrenaline action-adventure.

Vin Diesel is Xander Cage, a tattooed, buff-to-the-max underground thrill seeker. He is the ultimate Bad Boy... armed with astonishing physical stamina and the attitude to go with it.

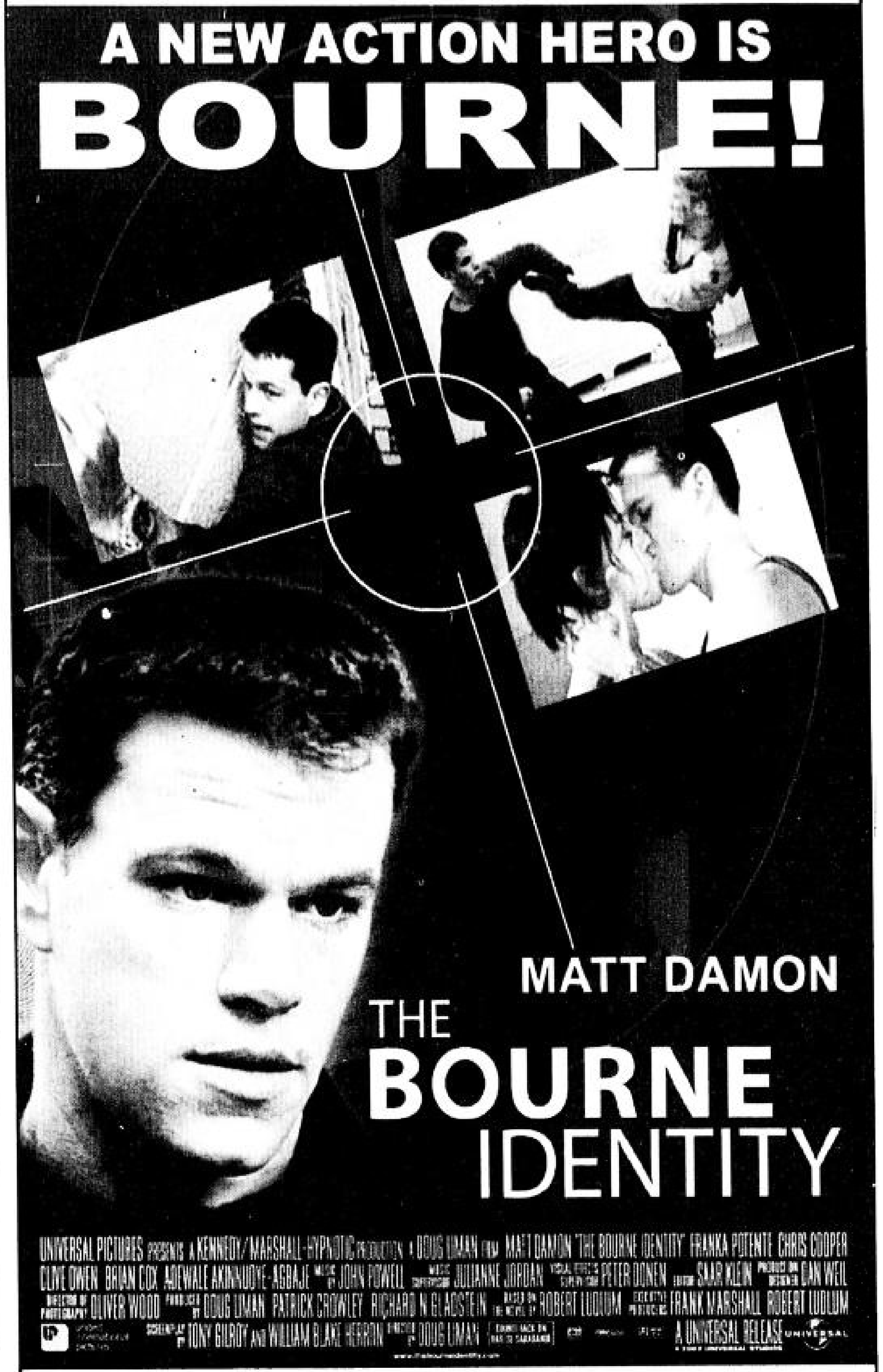
After tangling with the law too many times, he is forced to pay his debt to society, going on a dangerous underground mission in Prague. Recruited by tough veteran agent (SAMUEL JACKSON) of the National Security Agency, Xander must infiltrate a crime ring led by a brutal ex-Russian Army commander. His secret agent code name: xXx (Triple X).

Columbia Pictures presents the biggest slam-bang action picture of the season! Time Magazine says xXx is "a highly stylized adrenaline rush of a movie." You won't want to miss it.

SECOND WEEK!

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.

The film contains some violence which young audiences may find disturbing.
Parents and guardians are cautioned against bringing children 13 years old and below.

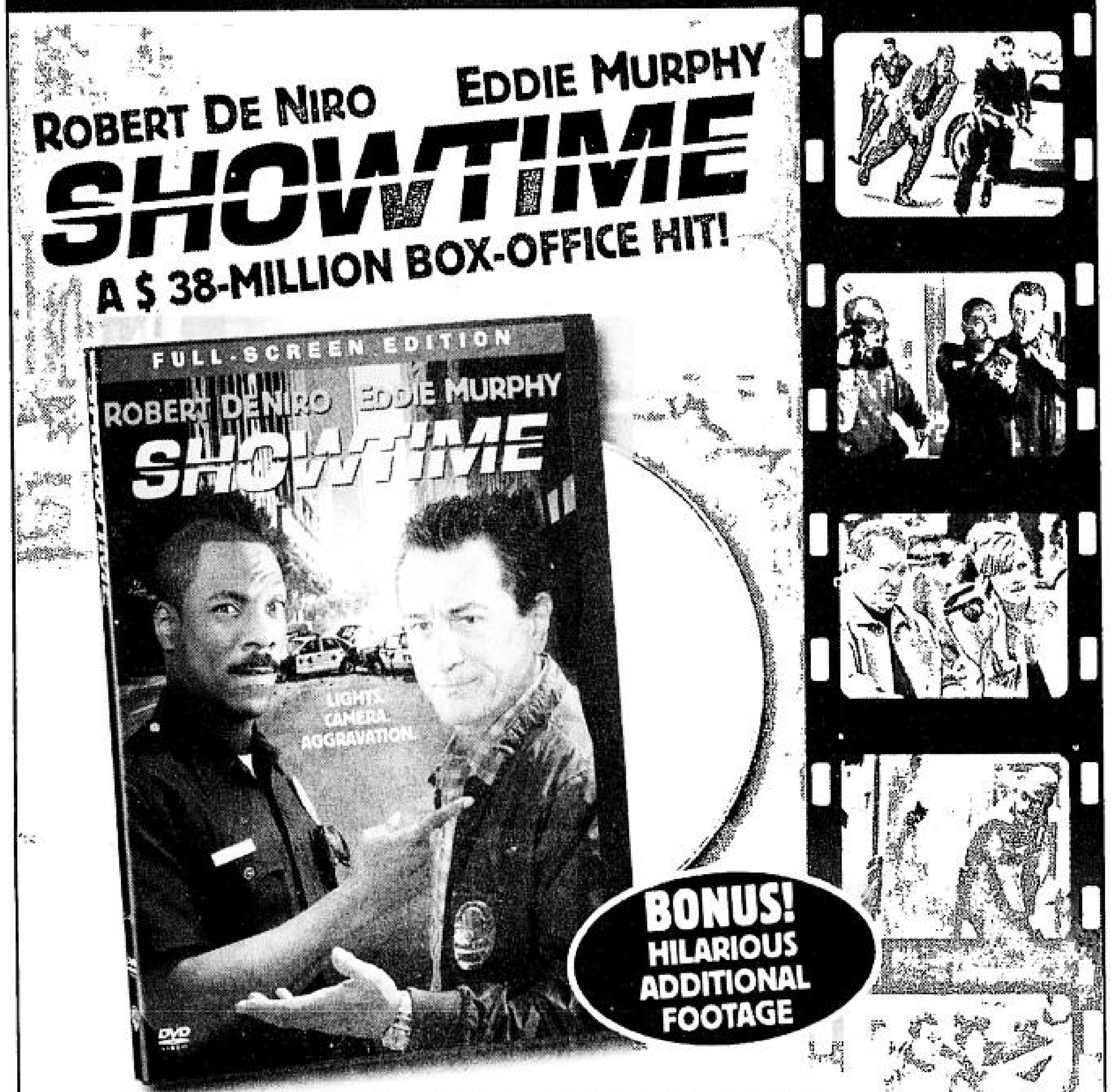

A NEW ACTION HERO IS
BOURNE!
MATT DAMON
THE BOURNE IDENTITY

UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS A KENNEDY/MARSHALL-HYPNOTIC PRODUCTION A DOUG LIMAN FILM MATT DAMON "THE BOURNE IDENTITY" FRANKA POTENTE CHRIS COOPER CLIVE OWEN BRIAN COX ADEWALE AKINNUOYE-AGBAJE MUSIC BY JOHN POWELL MUSIC SUPERVISOR JULIANNE JORDAN VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR PETER DONEN EDITOR SAAR KLEIN PRODUCTION DESIGNER DAN WEIL DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY OLIVER WOOD PRODUCED BY DOUG LIMAN PATRICK CROWLEY RICHARD N GLADSTEIN BASED ON THE NOVEL BY ROBERT LUDLUM EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS FRANK MARSHALL ROBERT LUDLUM SCREENPLAY BY TONY GILROY AND WILLIAM BLAKE HERRON DIRECTED BY DOUG LIMAN A UNIVERSAL RELEASE

united international pictures
VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES
A VIVA ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

SEPTEMBER 4

NOW ON VIDEO!


ROBERT DE NIRO
EDDIE MURPHY
SHOWTIME
A $ 38-MILLION BOX-OFFICE HIT!
FULL-SCREEN EDITION
ROBERT DE NIRO EDDIE MURPHY
SHOWTIME
LIGHTS. CAMERA. AGGRAVATION.
DVD
BONUS! HILARIOUS ADDITIONAL FOOTAGE

**TWO MIS-MATCHED COPS
IN AN INSANELY FUNNY MIS-ADVENTURE!**

**ANOTHER #1 HIT FROM THE CREATOR OF "THE SIXTH SENSE"
NOW SHOWING!!!**

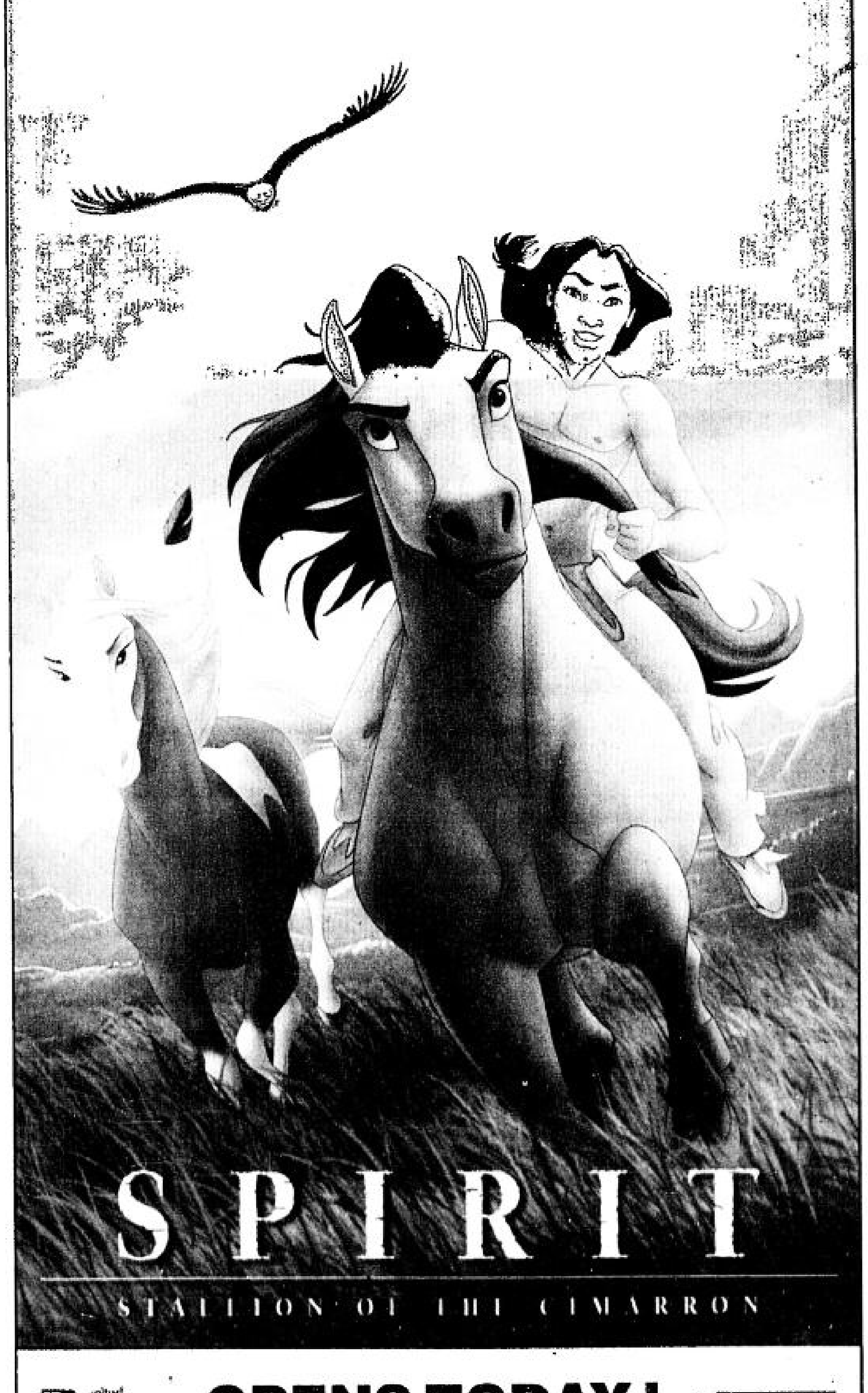
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

"THRILLING. FRIGHTENING. FUNNY. HEARTBREAKING AND DEEPLY MOVING. YOU'LL HAVE TO SEE IT TWICE." -PAUL CLINTON, CNN
"TWO THUMBS UP!" -EBERT & ROEPER
"YOU WON'T JUST BE ON THE EDGE OF YOUR SEAT... YOU'LL BE JUMPING OUT OF IT!" -CLAY SMITH, ACCESS HOLLYWOOD
"A SUSPENSE-FILLED TWILIGHT-ZONE THRILLER.' -JOEL SIEGEL, GOOD MORNING AMERICA
"ONE OF THE BEST MOVIES OF THE YEAR." -JIM SVEJDA, KNX/CBS RADIO
'FULL OF SURPRISES." -DAVID SHEEHAN, CBS-TV
MEL GIBSON
M. NIGHT SHYAMALANÕS
signs
www.signs.movies.com
Touchstone Pictures

Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures

MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage | All Ages Admitted

FROM THE PRODUCERS THAT BROUGHT YOU SHREK


SPIRIT
STALLION OF THE CIMARRON

united international pictures
VIVA INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

OPENS TODAY!

Evening up the score

IF male viewers can have their raunchy, gross-out comedies, why can't their female counterparts? In this age of sexual equality, no reason why not—so here comes **Cameron Diaz**'s latest starrer, "The Sweetest Thing," to even up the score for the, uh, not-quite-ladies.

In this cheerfully naughty and even sweetly salacious movie, Diaz's lonely and lovelorn character hears that her crush (**Thomas Jane**) is about to get married, and flips out. For once in her insecure life, she refuses to play the victim, and with her two roomies (**Christina Applegate** and **Selma Blair**), she takes a trip to the town where the dreaded wedding is supposed to take place.

The trip proves to be much more eventful than the girls expect. A number of gross mishaps take place, and this time, it's the women who are at the receiving end of all of the indignities and downright shockers.

The upshot is, Diaz's character does get to the wedding, but instead of sabotaging it, she even makes friends with the bride (played by the ubiquitous **Parker Posey**, who seems to specialize in playing cameo roles on the big screen).

So, Diaz philoophically heads for home, as lonely as ever. But the fickle finger of fate wiggles in her favor for a change, and the wedding is mutually called off by both bride and groom, to make way for a happy ending for our lovely but addled heroine.

But not before the movie's most "celebrated" scene takes place: Selma Blair gives head to her boyfriend, but they are accidentally locked in that extremely awkward position, to the consternation of the entire neighborhood, and all of the members of the police force, to boot.

"The Sweetest Thing" is definitely not simperingly sweet, and could even be too gross for some sensibilities. But it proves to be a liberating acting experience for its female leads, who look like they're having a rip-roaring good time being so un-ladylike, for a change. Let's hope that the local audience is similarly "game".

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

Boob-tube booboos

HOST: How can we boost tourism in this country?

Guest: By less pollution and more control. You will find that some places that are touched by humans have a lot of people!

(What are you talking about?)

* * *

Host: What specific projects are you initiating to improve the country's image abroad?

Guest: For one, to encourage the shooting of foreign movies here, to show the world our beautiful sites.

Host: Do you think that will work?

Guest: Of course, *nakaka*-promote *yon ng* Philippine *ano*!

(Well, that's nice and—specific!)

* * *

Host: What about the other side of the coin: How can we downplay the negative aspects of living here?

Guest: *Siyempre*, we have to minimize whatever *yon na nakaka*-destruct *sa* image *ng Pilipinas*!

(*Ay*, *nakaka*-destruct!)

* * *

Host: Your life has been a rags-to-riches story. How did you do it? What advice can you share with poor people out there who want to transform themselves? What do they need to have?

Guest: Well, first of all, they have to have determination of character!

(Ah, so!)

* * *

Host: The officials who have been suspended, what will happen to them?

Guest: Well, they have to pay for their mistakes.

Host: No chance for them to eventually be reinstated?

Guest: No more—after all, they have already usurpated their authority!

(*Ay*, usurpated!)

* * *

Host: The infighting in the Senate has become too stressful for all of us!

Co-host: Especially the senators themselves!

Host: What's the latest on the fighting?

Co-host: Well, there are still some thorny issues, leaving the opposition senators mad as can ever be!

(Huh?)

Love inspires L.A. Lopez's latest hit

FORMER child singer-actor L.A. Lopez with his late dad, Max Lopez.

L.A. Lopez's latest single, "Make Me a Love Song," proves that with love, nothing is impossible, including turning songs into hits.

The pop ballad is now the third most popular tune all over the country, as local music charts indicate. In fact, it's fast rise to the top of the charts is a clear gauge that "Make Me a Love Song" could very well approximate the success of L A.'s first single last year, a remake of Bunso's '70s classic, "Yakap," originally recorded by Junior.

"Make Me a Love Song" debuted at a modest position in the Top 20 and in just over a month, edged out most foreign and OPM hits in the Top Three.

The favorable airplay "Make Me a Love Song" has generated also pushed the sales of L.A.'s album, "Yakap," now nearing the platinum record mark.

But to L.A. and her mom, former singer-actress Idonnah Lopez, the significance of "Make Me a Love Song" goes beyond any chart position or album sales.

Idonnah penned the song as a tribute to L.A.'s dad, Max Lopez, who passed a few years ago.

In 1995, Max, who was a teacher of philosophy and logic at St. Joseph's College, was diagnosed with brain cancer. A year later, the ailment worsened and Max was pronounced as a terminal cancer victim.

The moment he found out about his ailment, Max asked Idonnah to write a love song for him. A few hours before Max died, Idonnah completed "Make Me a Love Song."

When L.A. was compiling songs for his solo album, he himself broached the idea of including "Make Me a Love Song" in the lineup.

Star Records was initially reluctant to include the song in the album, but Idonnah and L.A. insisted, so "Make Me a Love Song" became the second track in the CD.

The song was recently released as the latest single from the album, on the heels of the Raymond Lauchengco original, "Farewell."

L.A. had just returned from a successful series of performances for Christian communities in the United States, where he also celebrated his 17th birthday with relatives and new-found friends.

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	JOLOGS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	GAMITAN
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	AUSTIN POWERS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	SIGNS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	TRIPLE X
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	UNFAITHFUL
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	DERAILED
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	SIGNS
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	DERAILED
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	MAMASAN / MONSTER BALL
ODEON	DERAILED
ODEON-2	RESIDENT EVIL / PILAK
ROBEN	GAMITAN
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	K-PAX / ALL ABOUT BENJAMIN
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET-2	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
QUEZON-1	GAMITAN
REMAR	DERAILED
REMAR-2	GAMITAN
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	GAMITAN
B	JOLOGS
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	TRIPLE X
CINEMA-2	SIGNS
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	BIGLANG LIKO
CINEMA-2	KILLING ME SOFTLY
CINEMA-3	JOLOGS
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	TRIPLE X
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	GAMITAN
CINEMA-6	UNFAITHFUL
CINEMA-7	INSOMNIA
CINEMA-8	JOLOGS
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	TRIPLE X
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	AUTIN POWERS
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	SPIRIT
CINEMA-12	SIGNS
CINEMA-14	DERAILED
CINEMA-15	JOLOGS
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	INSOMIA
CINEMA-2	SPIRIT
CINEMA-3	AUSTIN POWERS
CINEMA-4	TRIPLE-X
CINEMA-5	DERAILED
CINEMA-6	SIGNS
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

OPENS SEPTEMBER 4 !

MTRCB RATING R-18 Strictly for Adults Only

ANG KASAYSAYAN NG ISANG BABAENG NAWAWALA SA SARILI!

RITA AVILA TOMMY ABUEL DARIA RAMIREZ
ANA CAPRI RODEL VELAYO
and DIANA ZUBIRI
Lualhati Bautista's
BAKAT
Co-Starring MON CONFIADO EDWIN REYES
SEIKO
directed by FRANCIS 'JUN' POSADAS

POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

AUSTIN POWERS - 13P 12:20,2:30,4:40,6:50 SIGNS - P13 9:00	SPIRIT GP 1:00,3:00,5:00, 7:00,9:00	AUSTIN POWERS P13 1:20,3:30,5:40, 7:50,10:00
TRIPLE-X P13 12:00,2:30,5:00, 7:30,10:00	INSOMNIA P13 12:10,2:35,5:00, 7:25,9:50	SIGNS P13 12:50,3:10,5:30, 7:50,10:10

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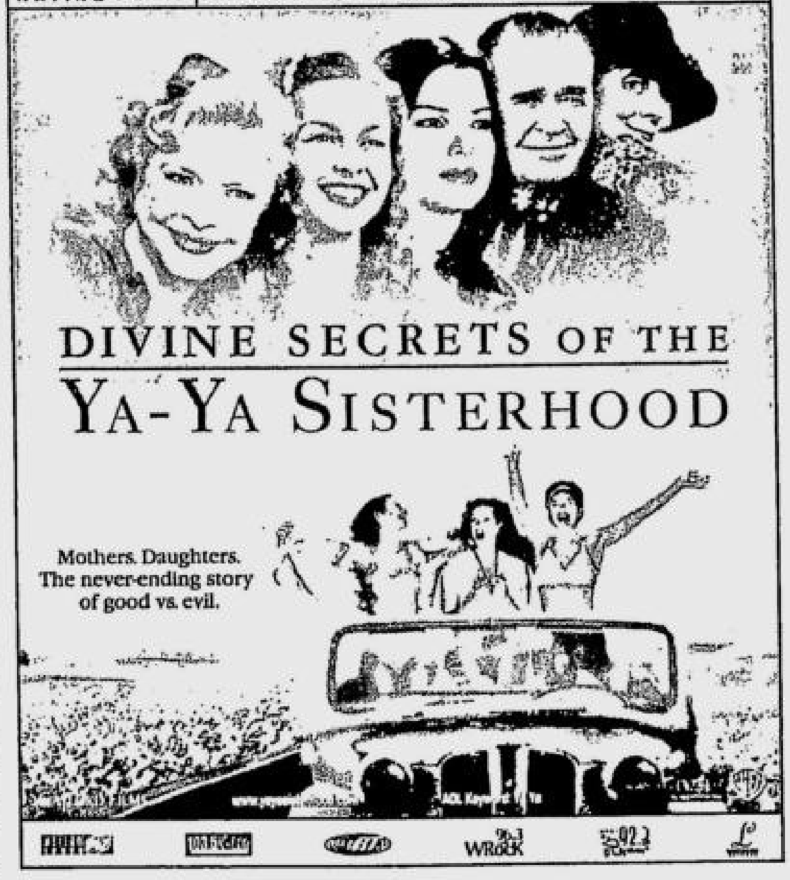

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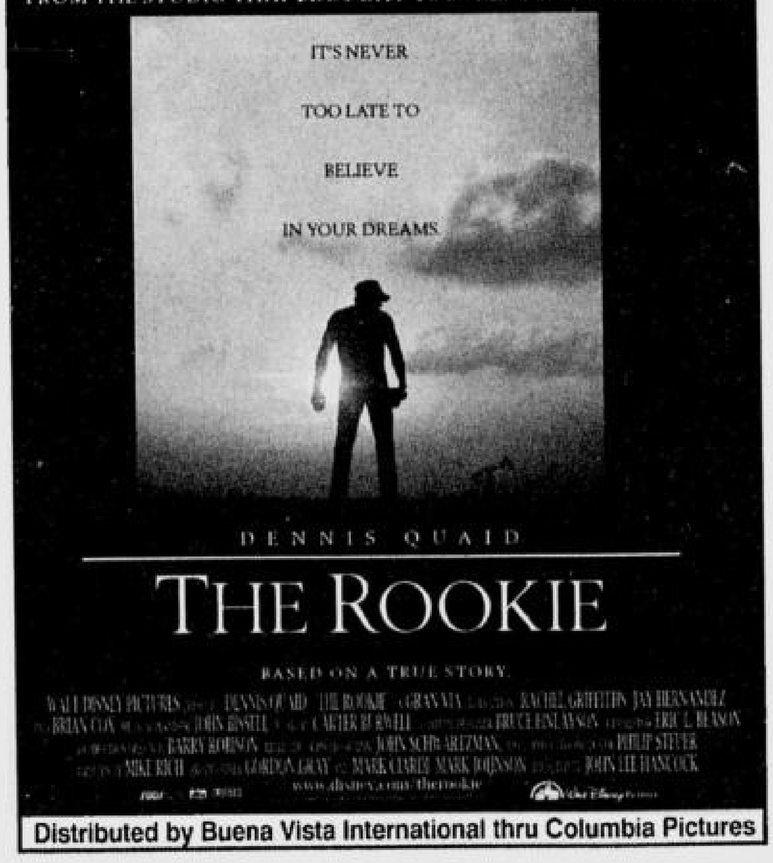

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TWM concert season

TWM (The World of Music) series of concerts begins its fifth season with two musical soirees to be held at The Podium in Ortigas Center and will build up to a crescendo of three concerts at the Shangri-La Plaza Mall in Mandaluyong City.

Dubbed "TWM 5," the first of the concerts will be on Aug. 31, 5 p.m. at the second level of The Podium, featuring Bo Razon and the Afro-Latin Ensemble.

Discover the tribal beat that conquered the world. The soiree will trace the origin of some popular music forms such as rock-and-roll, mambo, blues, jazz and even hip-hop to the ethnic beats of Africa. Some numbers will fuse the classical with the Afro-Latin beat.

The performance is called a musical soiree because it is designed to be a close gathering of music lovers and will encourage interaction between the performing artist and the audience.

The second soiree at The Podium is scheduled on Sept. 14 and will feature violinist John Lesaca with guest NAMCYA winner instrumentalists.

The "TWM 5" concert series open to the public and presented by Montre, a watch store specializing in quality high-end Swiss watches.

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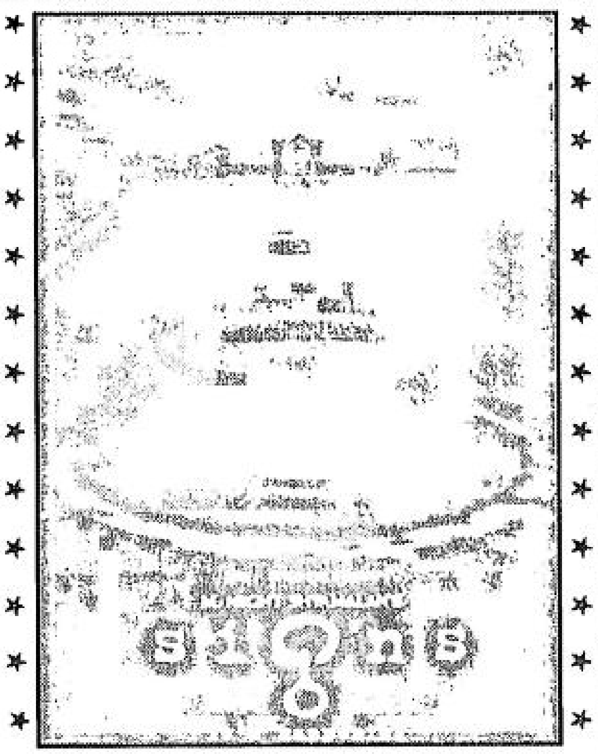
"TWM 5" will be hosted by former Dean of UP College of Music, Johnny Ramos.

For details, call 726-1953 or 726-1968.



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3:30 The Carriers are Waiting
6:30 Ring 1
8:30 Ring 2
10:30 Ring 0

August 30 (Friday)
10:30 Kikujiro
1:30 Following
3:30 The Navigators
6:30 Bashu, The Little Stranger
8:30 No Man's Land
10:30 Atanarjuat, The Fast Runner

August 31 (Saturday)
10:30 Quitting
1:30 Leaf On A Pillow
3:30 The Cyclist
6:30 Bread And Tulips
8:30 No Man's Land
11:30 Atanarjuat, The Fast Runner

Cinema 2

August 29 (Thursday)
10:30 Following
1:30 A City Of Sadness
4:30 Dog Days
6:30 Fastfood, Fast Women
8:30 What Time Is It There?
10:30 A Pornographic Affair

August 30 (Friday)
10:30 Leaf on A Pillow
1:30 The Cyclist
3:30 The Carriers Are Waiting
6:30 A Pornographic Affair
8:30 Bread And Tulips
10:30 What Time Is It There?

August 31 (Saturday)
10:30 Dog Days
1:30 The Carriers Are Waiting
3:30 Calmness
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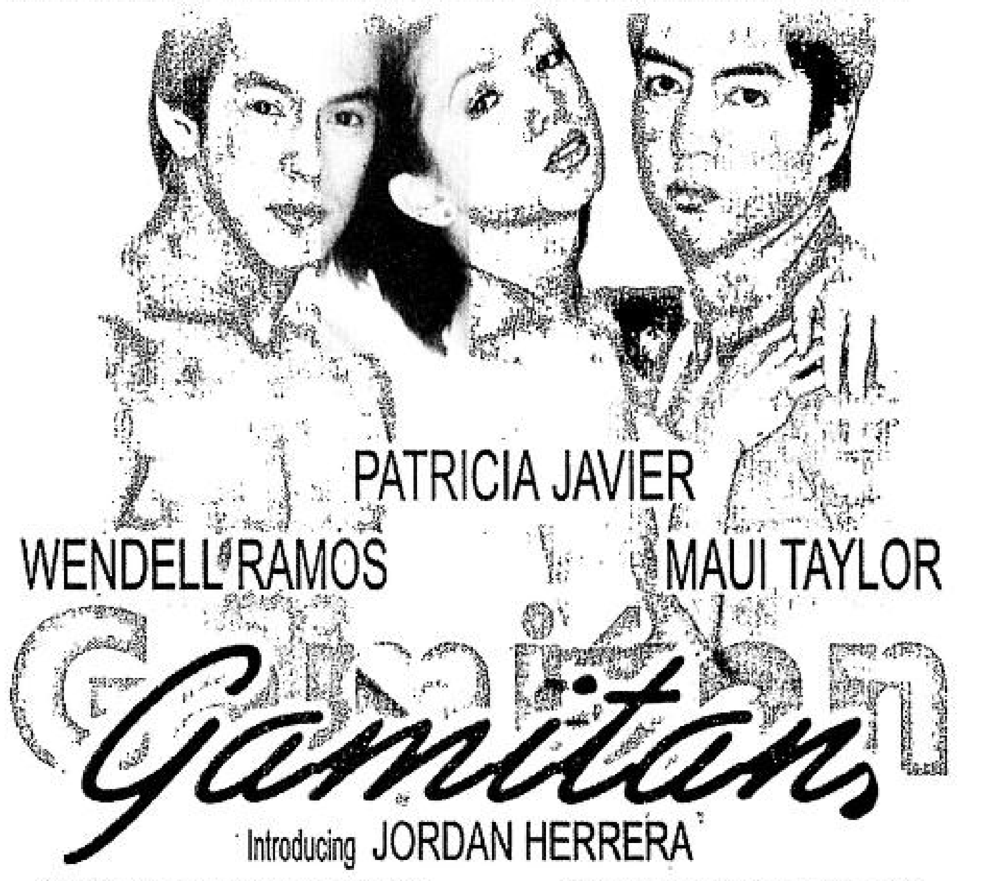

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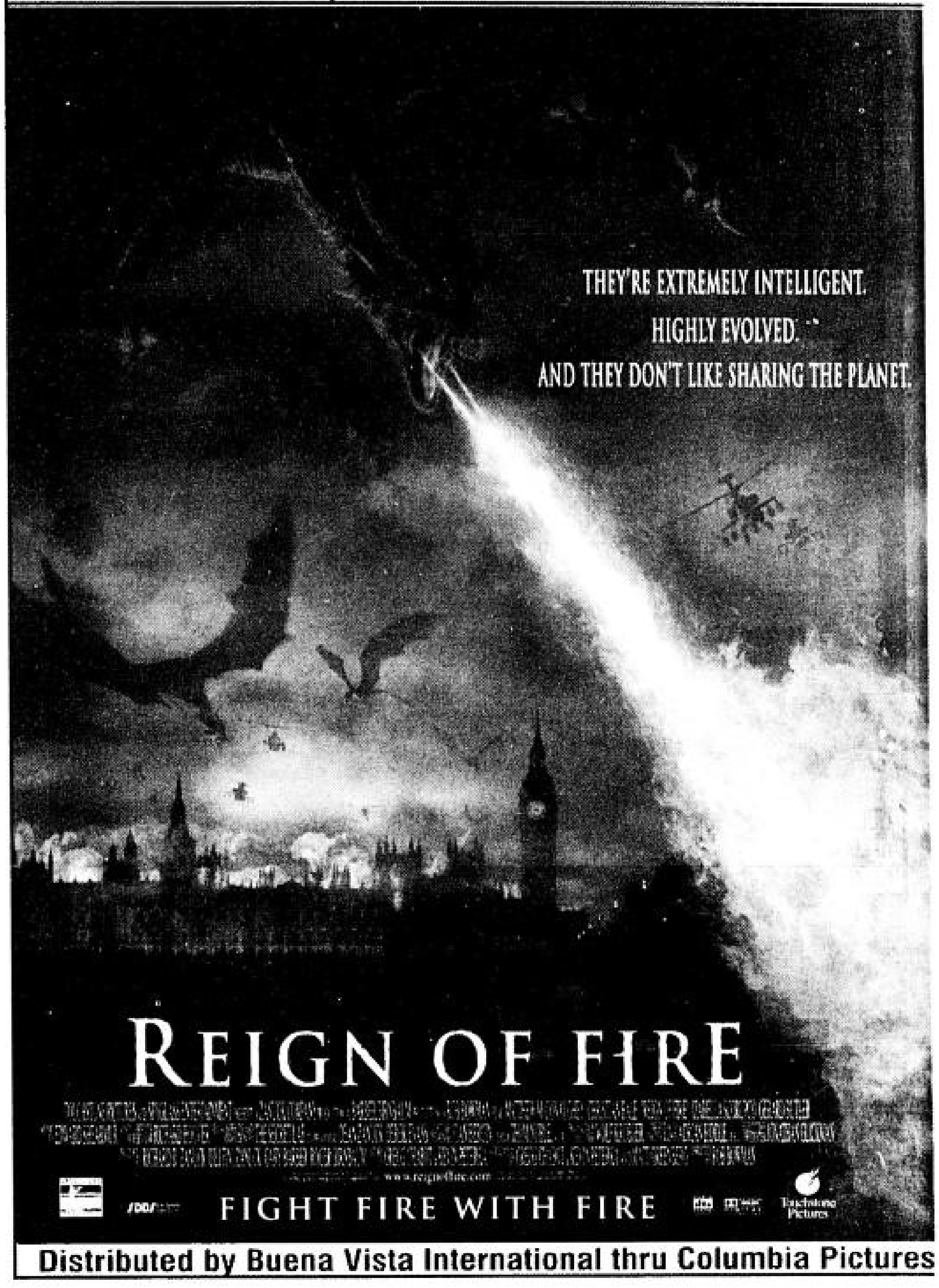

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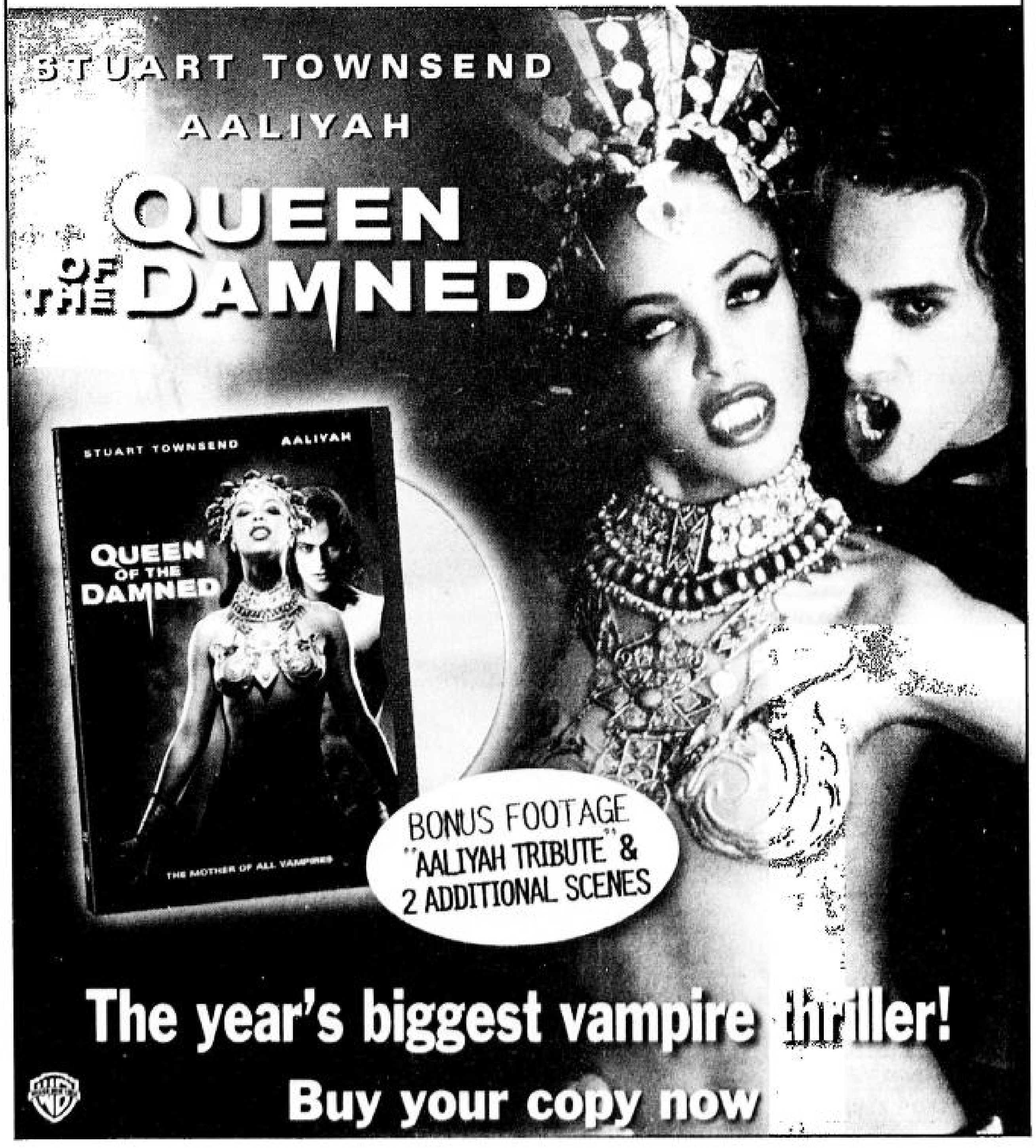

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2% w/o Taking Car 8966633

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GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

FURNITURE

P45Tup Kawal Yamaha O/B No Int 6mos Pay 9240834

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT ELITE PIANO CENTER Almost New Models 7213124

PETS

Dalma Pupy 2mo. w/Vacc 0917-6103771

DOG TRAINER 4528681

LABRADOR PUPPIES W/PAPERS 6560091/6562303

Dog Trainer 0918-7193342

SPORTING GOODS

22T Pool Sr New Compl! 7767507

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ANY ROLEX Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

B/Sell Educ'l 8061574

BUYING ROLEX others, High Price CASH 09178142309/7269687/4123543

Buy/Pawn Diamonds T834-2886

SAVERS KEEPERS-BUY USED FURNITURE / BABY ACC./ HOUSEWARE /TOYS 5328127

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE ROLEX 5633742 5646593 09178473744

WE BUY GOLD HIGHEST PRICE CALL: 8380946 8390060

MISCELLANEOUS

B/SELL FULLY PD EDUC PLAN GIE 780-0106 / 0917-7939632

]Comp sound system Peavey, & QSC Power amp equalizer JBL speaker subwoofer denon CD mixer PioCD J500 slightly used, comp band amps carvin samick D'markley Pearl Ziljan 09175165562/2920056 /2922904

Garage Sale big & small items tom. Aug. 31 Saturday #160 Milagros St. San Juan MM Iris 7259045

Used Dept. Store Showcase 1T Up • Call 718-15-16 or Text 0917-5357238

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FEMALE

Female Sec. Good in Math Stay in Bulacan • 363-3080

IMMEDIATE HIRING FEMALE (21-28) 2 Computer Encoders 2 Bookkeepers (Acctg Graduate) KOA & ASSOCIATES TEL 2520096 • 2553083

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MALE/FEMALE

URGENT OFC PERSONNEL 18/45 w w/o exp Direct Hiring CALL MS. MARIEL 4216507

A Direct Selling Company is looking for ENCODER & STORE SUPERVISOR for IT's expansion. For Inquiries, please call 8546017 Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

FREE Care Giver Seminar 5614990 5638009

Office of the President
PHILIPPINE RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(PhilRice)
Central Experiment Station
Science City of Muñoz
Nueva Ecija

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

All interested parties are hereby invited to prequalify for the 1. Construction of the Seed Health Laboratory, and 2. Construction of the Biotechnology Laboratory, and 3. 3 Dr. apt. at the Central Experiment Station of PhilRice, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija. Application for prequalification is extended to Filipino contracting firms with valid license issued by PCAB of at least "Category A" and "Medium A" for General Building (for projects 1, 2) and "Cat B small B" for the 3-Dr Apt (local contractors only) Financial capacity, good track record, and specialty of office buildings and laboratories are required for all interested parties.

Prequalification Documents shall be available for issuance during office hours from **September 10, 2002** to **September 12, 2002** at the Internal Audit Office, Office of the Deputy Executive Director for Administration, PhilRice, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija. All are required to submit a letter of intent addressed to the PhilRice Director, and presentation of the original, unexpired PCAB license. Representatives of the contractors must present a notarised attorney-in fact authorizing him/her to represent the company in obtaining the forms. Prequalification forms shall be released upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00. Submission of accomplished Pre-C forms shall not be later than 5:00 p.m., **September 19, 2002** at the same office and address.

Only pre-qualified applicants shall be invited to participate in the biddings.

PhilRice reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reasons, waive any required formality therein, and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government.

Additional information shall be furnished upon notice of prequalification.

(Sgd.) **LEOCADIO S. SEBASTIAN**
Executive Director

(PDI - Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 7 & 8, 2002)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE/FEMALE

★Urgent Ofc Personnel★ 18-45 w/ w/o exp 9134470 Rhadz

OFC STF MS. LEAH 5512388

•PROMO RELIEVER• F-5'2" M-5'6", College Level, Speaks English, Pasig, Makati & Alabang Area 8501599 LOOK FOR MS.GINA

Sec Clerk Maid 9254153

Travel Assistant w/Amadeus /Abacus Knowledge 821-3576

URGENT OFC STAFF 20-45YO W/WO EXP 9134470 MERCY

URGENT! OFC STAFF18-45yo w w/o exp 8539986 Ms. Pie

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

Notice is hereby given that GOLDCREST PAWNSHOP located 4134 R. Magsaysay Blvd Sta. Mesa Manila will move to its new location at 4096 R. Magsaysay Blvd Sta. Mesa Manila and under our new name GOLDCREST PAWNSHOP CO. LTD.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Bazaar-TIANGGE Forbes Park 7137030-7137231 Rotary Club Mktl Greenbelt

Business w/Travel 0916-9368917

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French Int'l Company operating in 12 countries. Marketing a unique product with a market potential of US$2.3 billion. Looking for self motivated individual to join us as independent distributor and business partner. Interested email to olu @diligelone.com or at cs-ang @hotmail.com

Kidswear consign 3738821

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PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"Singapore Entrepreneur seeks self-motivated individuals with a STRONG desire to succeed, to partner in an International Franchise Business in Philippines. Potential to travel internationally. No experience required. Please email: ckk22 singnet.com.sg for details"

Wanted Biznes Partners W/o Cap. Or Experience ESP Travel/Wed Planner esp_ez_visa@hotmail.com 5300965*5254517*4041416 09173502386*09192906996

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late Aracelie B. Martin has been extrajudicially settled per Doc. No. 214, Page 43, Book III of Atty. Edward S. Macamay. (PDI- August 30, Sept. 6 & 13 2002)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of PEDRO TABIOS who has been missing since March 1994 was extrajudicially settled among his heirs per Doc# 482, Page# 96, Book# VIII series of 2002 of notary public LEOPOLDO ULANDAY of Quezon City (PDI-Aug.16, 23 & 30, 2002)

LEGAL NOTICE

Take Notice of settlement of estate of Maria Gonzales-Inguito is being settled pursuant to deed of extrajudicial settlement of estate with absolute sale Doc 52, Page 12, Book 33 Series 1999 Notary Public Nestor L. Mesina Pasig City. (PDI-Aug. 16, 23 & 30, 2002)

Take Notice of settlement of estate of Margarita Gonzales-Tonque pursuant to deed of extrajudicial settlement of estate with absolute sale Doc. 400, Page 81, Book 30 series of 1999, notary public Lani Tabilisma Pasig City. (PDI-Aug. 16, 23 & 30, 2002)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given of the Loss of Alien Cert of reg # E-43179 issued to Christine Surjantini Aranya Indonesian by the Bureau of Immigration on January 15, 1998 (PDI-Aug.23,30&Sept6,2002)

Notice is hereby given that the Alabang Country Club "A" Share w/ Stock Certificate No. A-2130 issued in the name of Bernard Rojas & which share is mortgaged w/Investors Financial Services Corp. (formerly CIPI Leasing) was lost. If no contest received, new Certificate will be issued.
PDI-Aug. 23, 30, Sept. 6, 2002

PERSONAL

Thank You Very Much Holy Spirit From: Vilma Alberto & Family

CCR-Rizal Review Center
offers Review Classes for
2002 Management Aptitude Test Battery (MATB)
(For Superintendent Applicants for the DepEd)
on September 10, 11, 12, 13, 2002
(8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
at FEATI University, Audio-Visual,
(near MacArthur Bridge) Palanca St.,
Sta. Cruz, Manila

For Particulars:
call **Dr. Cris C. Rivera** of PNU
Tel. No. **527-7371**
or Telefax No. **941-9119**

EMBASSY OF JAPAN

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING TOURIST AND VISITING RELATIVE VISAS

The new system will be introduced for the convenience of the applicants. Beginning 02 September 2002, individuals applying for TOURIST and VISITING RELATIVE VISAS may do so directly at the designated windows.

This change is only relevant to those individuals applying in Manila.

Accordingly, the DROP BOX SYSTEM will be TERMINATED on **30 August 2002.**

Please visit our website for more visa-related information:
http://www.ph.emb-japan.go.jp

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☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
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ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

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*For more information, please call your funeral director.

JOSE RAMON FABELLA PAMINTUAN, JR.
"BOOGIE"

Peacefully joined his Creator on August 28, 2002
at the age of 61.

He is survived by his brothers and sisters **Backie** and **Mike Celdran, Peanut Pamintuan, Boy Pamintuan, Louie** and **Eve Pamintuan, Patis** and **Tito Tesoro** and **Myk Pamintuan**; nieces and nephews **Anna, Denise, Miguel** and **Crisann, Carlos & Tesa Celdran, Anton Pamintuan, Margie** and **Karen Pamintuan, Ancie, Geoff** and **Stavi Santos, Nicky, Joel** and **Tanya, Raffy Tesoro, Nina** and **Paul Poblador** and **Enzo Tesoro.**

His remains will lie in state at the Sanctuario de San Antonio on August 31 to September 1, 2002.

Interment will be on September 1, 2002 after the 4:00 p.m. Mass.

HOLY GARDENS MEMORIAL PARK
Helping in the Grief of Many People
www.holygardens.com

INTERMENT NOTICE

NAME	DATE	TIME	PLACE	PLACE OF WAKE
FELIPE M. WAGAN	August 30	1:00 PM	Holy Gardens Evergreen Memorial Park Batangas City	Sta. Rita Aplaya Batangas City

ANNOUNCEMENT:
1. We will be on web by September 1, 2002
2. Visit our Website and can do any of the following:
   a. virtual tour of all the site
   b. obituary
   c. biography of the interred for the last 60-90 days
   d. mass offering and condolences
3. Later
   a. sales and documents through the web
   b. lot inquiry

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City, Tels 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
C. Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel Ave., Pasig City, Tels 747-8599; 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760
AUREA QUIOGUE FUNERAL HOMES
243 A.B. Fernandez Ave., Dagupan City, Pangasinan, Tels (0785) 522-3451; 522-2128; (0917) 434-9976
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City, Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu, Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City, Tels. 231-0721, 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City, Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City, Tels 740-2683, 781-3705, 781-3688; 413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City, Tels (047) 222-3605, (047) 811-1086; (047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City, Tel 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St., Manuguit, Manila, Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133; Fax No. 711-3064
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila, Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City, Tels (045) 888-2559; (045) 322-5247
PAKET SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City, Tels 646-1725; 646-1730
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City, Tels 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila, Tels 642-3010; 633-3802
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
187 Real St., Zapote Alabang, Las Piñas, Tels. 873-0507; 873-0024
FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City, Tels. 890-3556; 899-8191
FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel, Bulacan 3011, Tels (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603
FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite, Tels (046) 471-3375; 471-2675
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila, Tels. 642-6181 to 82
HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila, Tels (DL) 845-2341 to 42; (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112
HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat, Parañaque City, Tels 825-1296, 825-1291
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur, Tel. 722-2730, Cell (0917) 5080136; (0917) 5680145
Manila #23 Palo St., Project 2, Quezon City, Tel. 434-3258
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila, Tels 711-6931 to 35; 732-4795; 732-2827
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City, Tels 749-3806 to 11; 712-3001; 743-6502 or 05
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City, Tel (074) 443-3337, (074) 442-3117
LA FUNERARIA SAPINOSO
G. Tirona St., Imus, Cavite, Tels (046) 471-3386, (046) 471-4417; (046) 571-1978
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City, Tels 895-1011 to 19
LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK CHAPELS & CREMATORY SERVICES
Loyola Memorial Park, A. Bonifacio Avenue, Tañong, Marikina City, Tels 941-3196 to 98, 941-3676; Telefax 941-3577
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal, Tels 645-1855, 682-0209; 682-0210
MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St., Dagupan City, Tels (075) 515-5360, 515-6529, 522-8783; (0919) 348-7131
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
254 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City, Tels 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867; 714-0808
POPULAR MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.
214 Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila, Tel. Nos. 254-0867, 254-0839
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St., Mandalagan, Bacolod City; Tel. 433-7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City, Tels 831-1204
Sucat Branch: 8187 Dr. A. Santos Ave., Sucat, Parañaque City, Tels 826-1376; 826-9682; (0915) 712-1220
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO PARISH
Forbes Park, Makati City, Tel. Nos. 843-8838 30, Fax No. 843-9223
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City, Telefax 724-4139; 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City, Tels 852-8228, 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila, Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City, Tels 372-5084, 410-9266/67
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City, Tels 831-3797, 844-7846; 843-1801; 845-4836
WELINGTON FUNERAL SERVICES
1511 Gen. Luna St., Paco, Manila; Tels 522-8846; 522-9438; 400-5394

"Though you joined the Creator nineteen years ago,
you will always be in our hearts and mind.
We love you Dad."

Lovingly Remembered
on his Nineteenth Death Anniversary

Gregorio S. Licaros, Sr.

Former Governor Central Bank of the Philippines
1970 - 1981
of Meycauayan, Bulacan

who passed away on August 30, 1983.

His wife, children, grandchildren and relatives, request friends and readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul. Masses will be offered today, August 30, 2002 at the following churches:

MEYCAUAYAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, Meycauayan, Bulacan	7:30 AM
POLO CATHOLIC CHURCH, Valenzuela, Bulacan	6:30 AM
MALOLOS CATHEDRAL, Malolos, Bulacan	6:30 AM
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE, Greenhills, San Juan	6:15 AM
MARY THE QUEEN PARISH, Greenhills, San Juan	6:00 AM
STO. DOMINGO CHURCH, Quezon Avenue, Quezon City	6:30 AM
SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO, Forbes Park, Makati City	6:15 AM
MANILA CATHEDRAL, Intramuros, Manila	7:30 AM
SAN AGUSTIN CHURCH, Intramuros, Manila	6:30 AM
ERMITA PARISH CHURCH, Ermita, Manila	6:30 AM
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH, San Marcelino Street, Manila	6:30 AM
STA. CRUZ CHURCH, Sta. Cruz, Manila	6:30 AM

In Loving Memory of

FRANCISCO LENON SUAREZ

Peacefully joined our Lord
on August 27, 2002 at the age of 89.

He was

... a faithful and loving
"Paquito" to **Nena Lacuna** (†)

... a caring and providing
"Pang" to **Arthur** (†) and **Gina**

... a pillar of strength and values as
"Lolo" to **Vincent, Pinky, Tony, Dr. Mara, Fides, Arlene, Dannie-Ann** and **Nicky.**

He will be missed.

We request our relatives, friends and people whose lives have been touched by him to say a prayer.

His remains lie in state at the Sto. Domingo Church, St. John Chapel, Quezon City.

Interment will be in Himlayang Pilipino, Tandang Sora, Quezon City on Sunday, September 1, 2002 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

SALUD BARANDA-ROMERO FRIAS

of San Fernando, Romblon

who joined her Creator
on August 27, 2002.

Interment will be on August 31, 2002 at Himlayang Pilipino Memorial Park, Tandang Sora, Quezon City after the 1:00 p.m. Mass.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Our Beloved

DAVID B. OROZCO

has gone home to be with the Lord
on August 28, 2002.

His sister and brother-in-law **LUZ & GODOFREDO ESGUERRA**; sister-in-law **REMEDIOS C. OROZCO**; nephews, nieces, grandnephews, and grandnieces thank the Almighty Father for blessing us all these 74 years with a wonderful brother, uncle and lolo. We rejoice for he is now in the bossom of our loving, heavenly Father.

His body lies in state at the Esguerra residence at #14 P. Ocampo Street, San Isidro, Taytay, Rizal.

Interment will be on Sunday, September 1, 2002 at the Navotas Municipal Cemetery after the 1:30 p.m. memorial service at the Tangos United Methodist Church, Tangos, Navotas.

In Loving Memory
Eighteenth Death Anniversary of

CLEMENTE S. GATMAITAN, SR.

M.D., M.P.H.

Who died in the Grace of our Lord on August 30, 1984
at the age of 78.

His bereaved wife **Felicula Campos**; children **Natividad** and **Deogracias, Clemente Jr.** and **Concepcion, Escolastico** and **Erna**; grandchildren, great grandchildren, sister and other relatives request the pious readers to offer prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

Holy Masses will be offered today, August 30, 2002 at:

6:00 AM	**Sacred Heart Parish Church**, Scout Ybardolaza, Kamuning, Quezon City
7:00 AM	**St. Paul de Apostle Church**, Mother Ignacia Street, Quezon City
7:30 AM	**Santuario de San Antonio**, Forbes Park, Makati City
12:00 PM	**Makati Medical Center Chapel**, Makati City

CLASSIFIEDS

ILOCOS NORTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
Suyo, Dingras, Ilocos Norte
Tel. Nos. (077) 784-7546, Fax No. (077) 784-7125

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The Ilocos Norte Electric Cooperative, Inc. has applied for a loan from the Rural Electrification Financing Corporation for the construction of 7.620/13.2 KV three phase 4 wire backbone line.

Interested suppliers are invited to submit their pre-qualification documents for the supply of pole line materials, hardwares, conductors, poles and other materials needed in the construction of the distribution line not later than September 4, 2002 at INEC main office, Suyo, Dingras, Ilocos Norte.

Only those pre-qualified shall be invited to Bid.

(Sgd.) **RENATO A. BALINTEC**
PBAC Chairman

(PDI – Aug. 25, 30 & 31, 2002)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The Public is hereby notified that the following persons had already **RESIGNED** and therefore **NOT CONNECTED** anymore with **OSM SHIPPING PHILS., INC.** located at 2F Security Bank Bldg., Dr. A. Santos Ave. cor. Peter St., Parañaque City effective on the dates stated below:

ANGELITO B. CAYANAN	- Chartering Dept. Manager	31 December 2000
JOCELYN T. ROSALES	- Liaison Officer and Maritime Coordinator	30 January 2001
JOHNY V. MALUMAY	- Asst. Maritime Coordinator	15 June 2002

This AD is in compliance with Section 12, Rule II, Book II of the Revised P.O.E.A. Rules and Regulations.

(PDI - Aug 30 2002)

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Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION
Magallanes Drive, Intramuros
1002 Manila

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY/ APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Bureau of Immigration is inviting interested contractors to apply for pre-qualification/eligibility and bid for the proposed four-storey extension of BI Main Office Building, Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila.

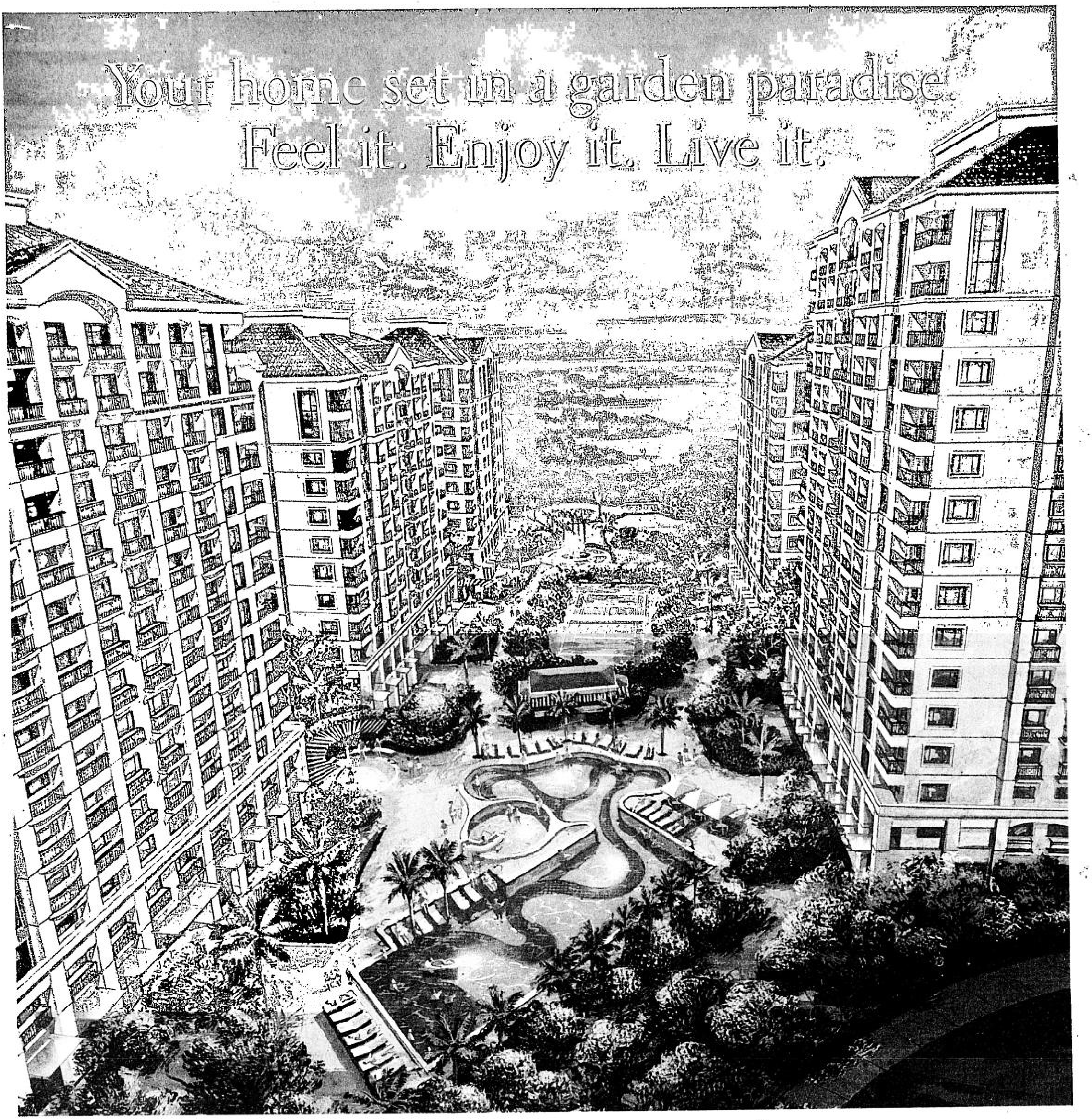
Interested contractors should be duly-registered/licensed with the PCAB with a classification of Medium "B" for Vertical Structures and should have performed other similar projects.

Notice for Prequalification/Eligibility Screening and List of Prequalification/Eligibility Requirements and other relevant information may be obtained from the BAC Secretariat, General Services Section, 3rd Floor, Bureau of Immigration, Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila from **Septembr 9 to 10, 2002**. Submission of duly-accomplished prequalification/eligibility forms shall be on **September 17, 2002** upon presentation of official Letter of Intent and payment of non-refundable fee of P1,000.00.

The Bureau of Immigration reserves the right, after observing all rules and regulations, to reject any or all the bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose bid is the most advantageous to the government. The Bureau of Immigration likewise assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or losses that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **DANIEL C. CUETO**
Associate Commissioner
Chairman, BAC (General)

(PDI – Aug. 30, Sep. 1 & 4, 2002)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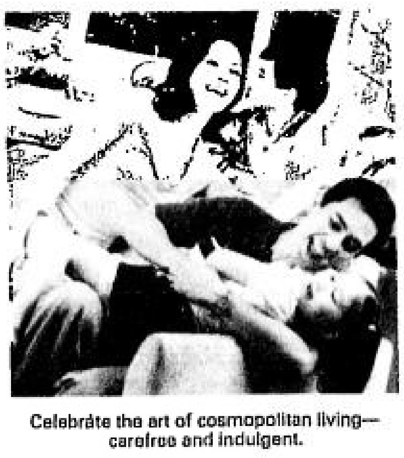
Unfold your winning form at the tennis court. Freshen up at the swimming pool. Spend the day shopping or the night partying at the Forbes Town Road. While the glorious greenscape of the Manila Golf course leaves you spellbound, every single day. Forbeswood Heights. Well-crafted homes blending with the easy ambience of its breathtaking landscape. Spectacular. Serene. Secure. Pampering you with a lifestyle that borders on the legendary.


Celebrate the art of cosmopolitan living—carefree and indulgent.

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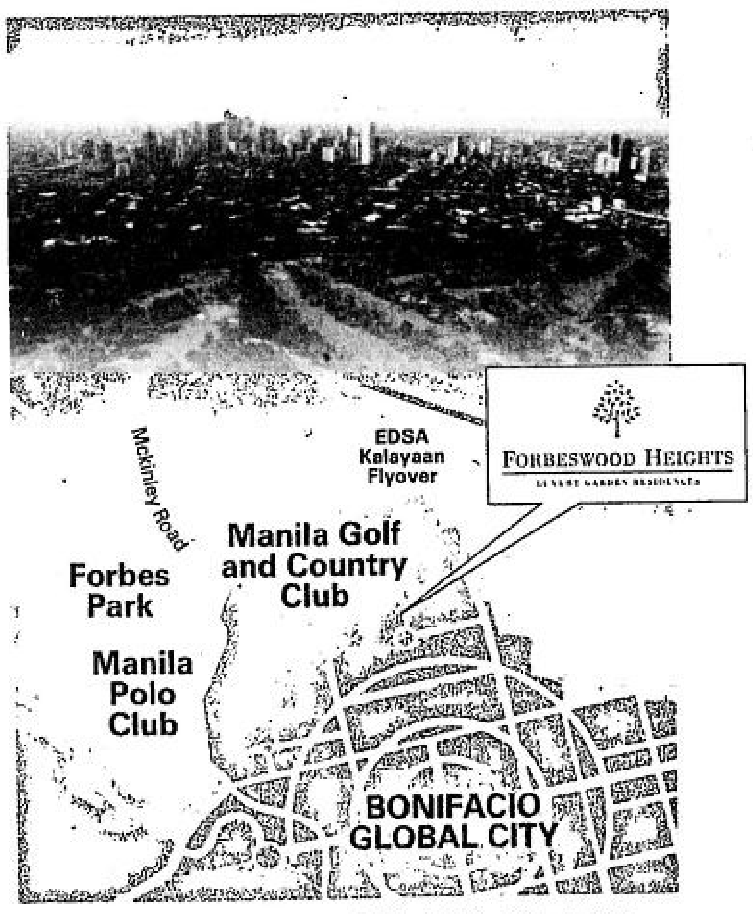
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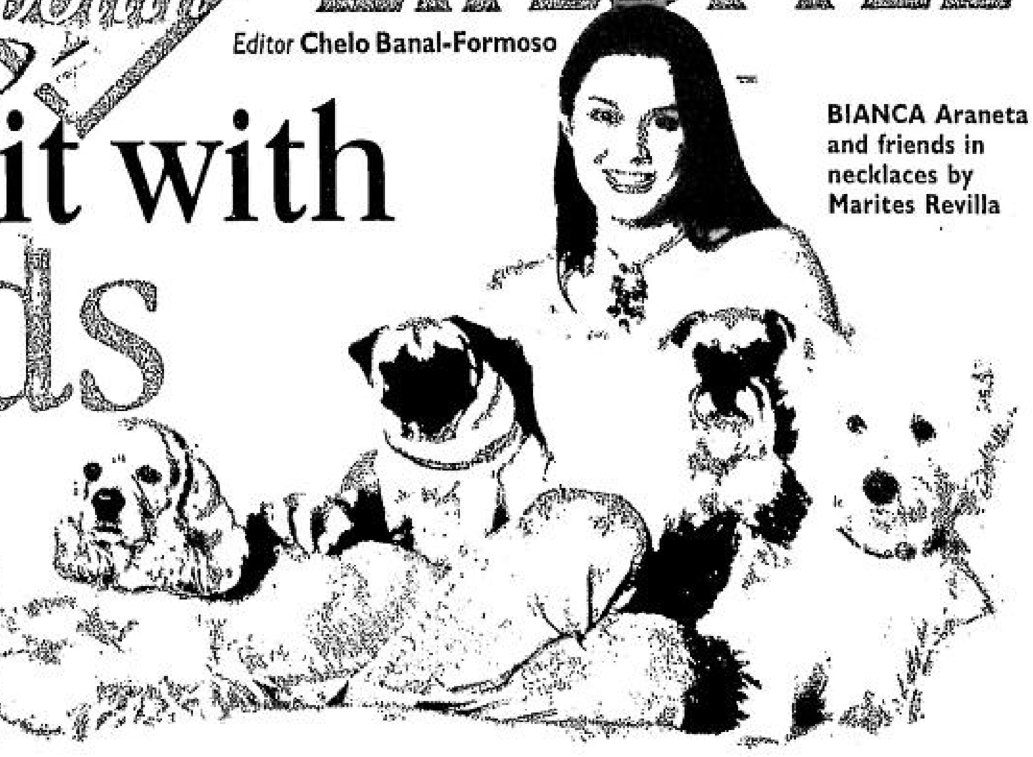
LIFESTYLE
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

Saying it with beads

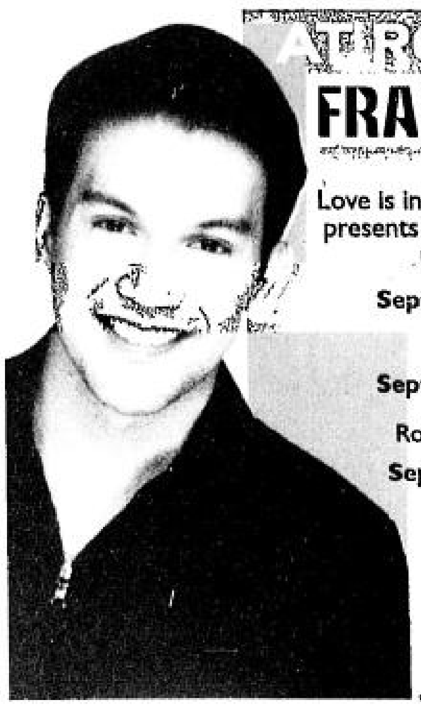
Text by Cathy Babao Guballa
Photos by Mike Alquinto


BIANCA Araneta and friends in necklaces by Marites Revilla

MARITES Revilla's love affair with beads began when she was a young girl waiting for her mom to come out of a beading session with an old Spanish lady, who

SAYING/ p.C4

WHAT'S ON
AT ROBINSONS



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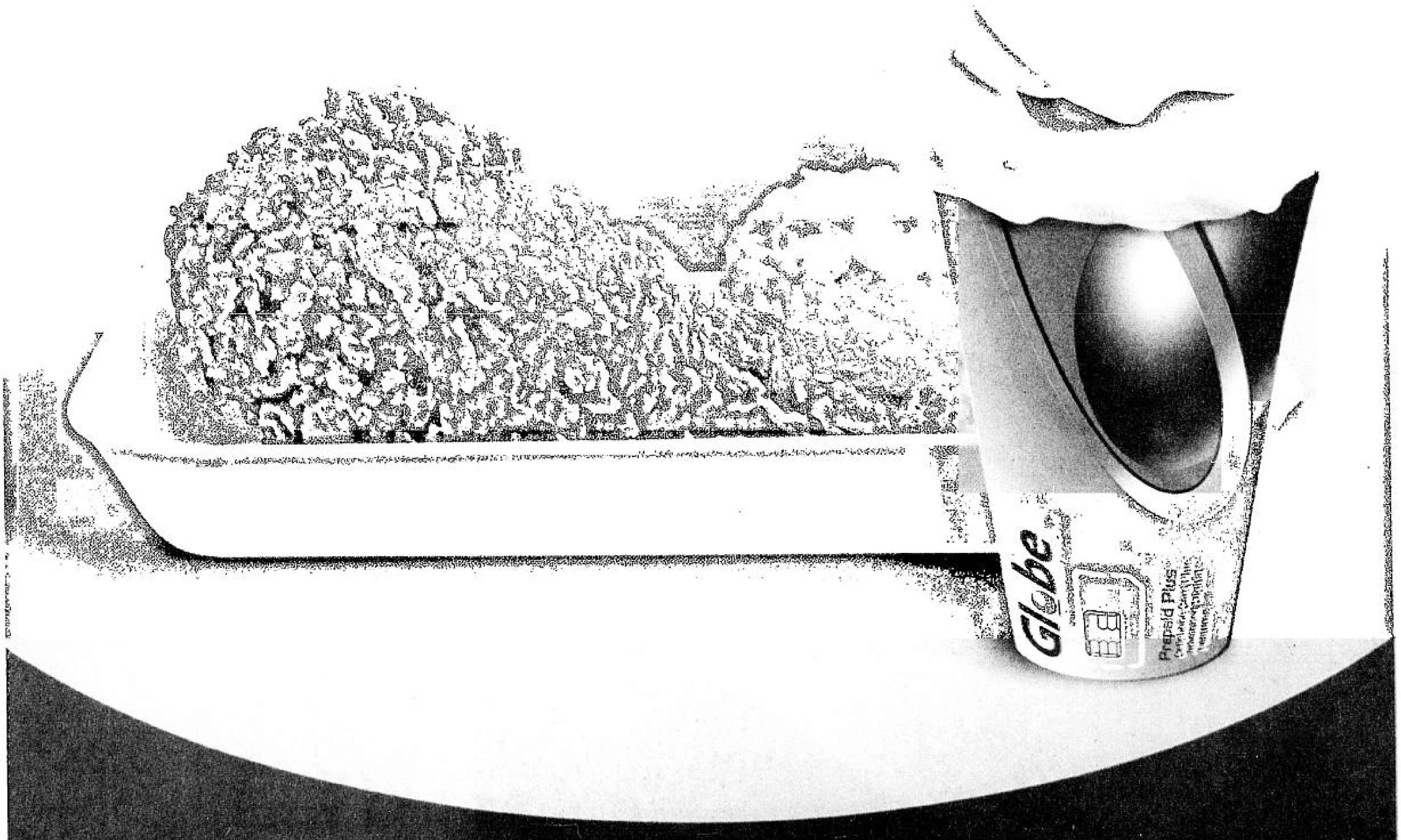

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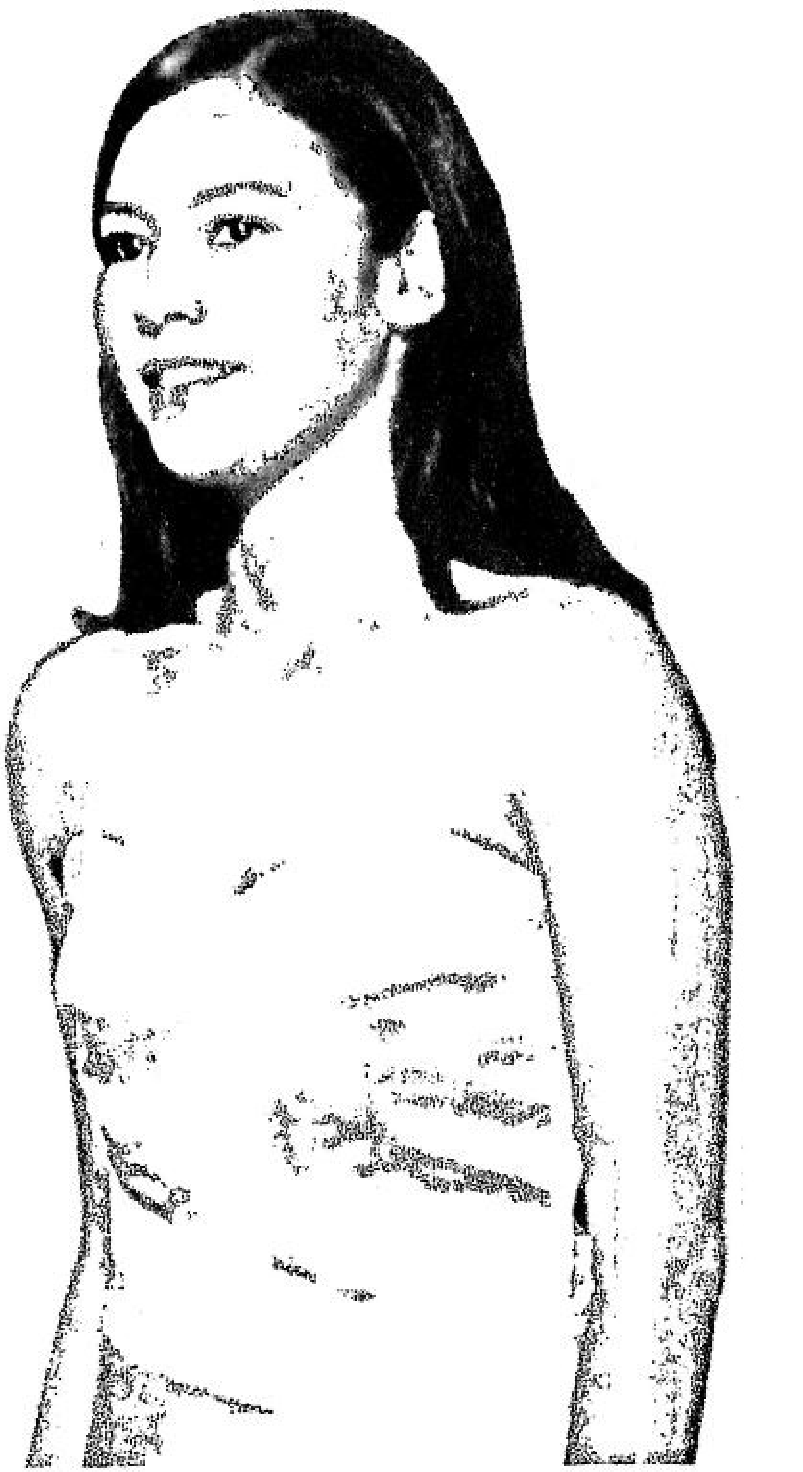
Mirror, mirror at the malls

Text by Allison W. Lopez
Photos by Romy Homillada



THIRTY minutes before your most-awaited job interview, you touch up your makeup, and secretly praise the perfectly matched attire you've just bought from the mall. You have practiced your answers well and, confident, you begin to smile, until you take a last look at the mirror—eek! Your hair is dry, dull, and worse, it's flyaway. Bye-bye, confidence.

Need a fairy godmother? Don't fret. With Pantene's "It's your time to shine" campaign, you can "transform" yourself back into that confident woman via the shampoo brand's "transformation centers" in various malls.

The centers offer free shampooing-makeovers (complete with blow-drying and styling). They are part of Pantene's "Infinite Beauty Shines" mall tour launched last Aug. 17 at the Power Plant Mall.

"We believe that Pantene can help the Filipina get the healthy, beautiful hair they want. We also believe that with healthy, beautiful hair, they will have more confidence to shine," says Procter & Gamble's assistant brand manager Romana Chuacaedo.

The mall tour kicked off with a fashion show. Models strutted on the runway with their hair—whether long or short, dyed or jet black—shining gloriously. The models' hip clothes were sponsored by Sari-Sari.

Past Pantene commercial models Bianca Gonzales and Thessa Dizon, and latest model Kylene Campos, also graced the event.

Know thy hair

You ask yourself, "How can I have hair like theirs? Blow-drying my hair straightened my hair, but still, why is it so…lifeless and boring?"

For a more lasting solution to your problematic hair, Pantene's transformation centers offer free hair analysis to measure how healthy (or damaged) your hair is. A computer software will measure your hair's "smoothness potential" and its thickness against the Asian average.

Hair that lacks shine is usually damaged as indicated by bubbled cuticles (from heating appliance), split ends, etc. Meanwhile, maximum shine is achieved when the hair surface is smooth and hair cuticles are well aligned.

After the hair analysis, consultants will give you some do's and don'ts and recommend a Pantene variant suited for you.

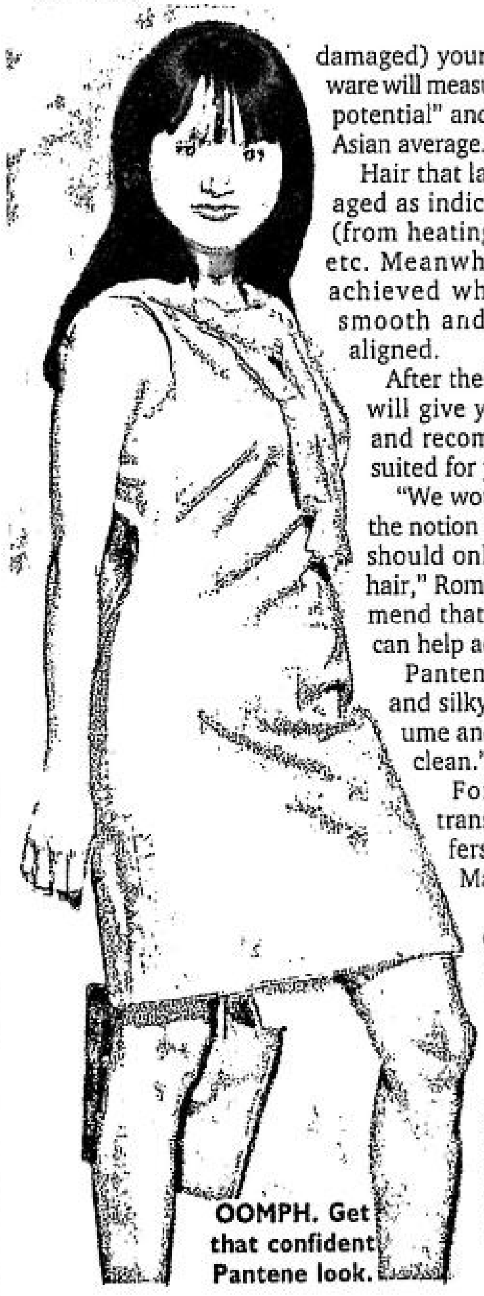
"We would like to veer away from the notion that if your hair is dry, you should only use a shampoo for dry hair," Romana says. "We also recommend that you find a shampoo that can help achieve your desired look."

Pantene's variants are "smooth and silky" (for straight hair), "volume and fullness," and "balanced clean."

For a total makeover, the transformation center also offers makeup consultation by Max Factor.

You can even add another sparkle through Pantene's nationwide diamond raffle promo, which runs until Oct. 15.

The Pantene "Infinite Beauty Shines" mall tour will be at Glorietta tomorrow until Sept. 1, Sta. Lucia East on Sept. 7-8 and Festival Mall on Sept. 20-22.



OOMPH. Get that confident Pantene look.

NO NEED FOR FAIRY GODMOTHER. Pantene model Bianca Gonzales

SLEEK AND SEXY. Straight and shiny hair from Pantene

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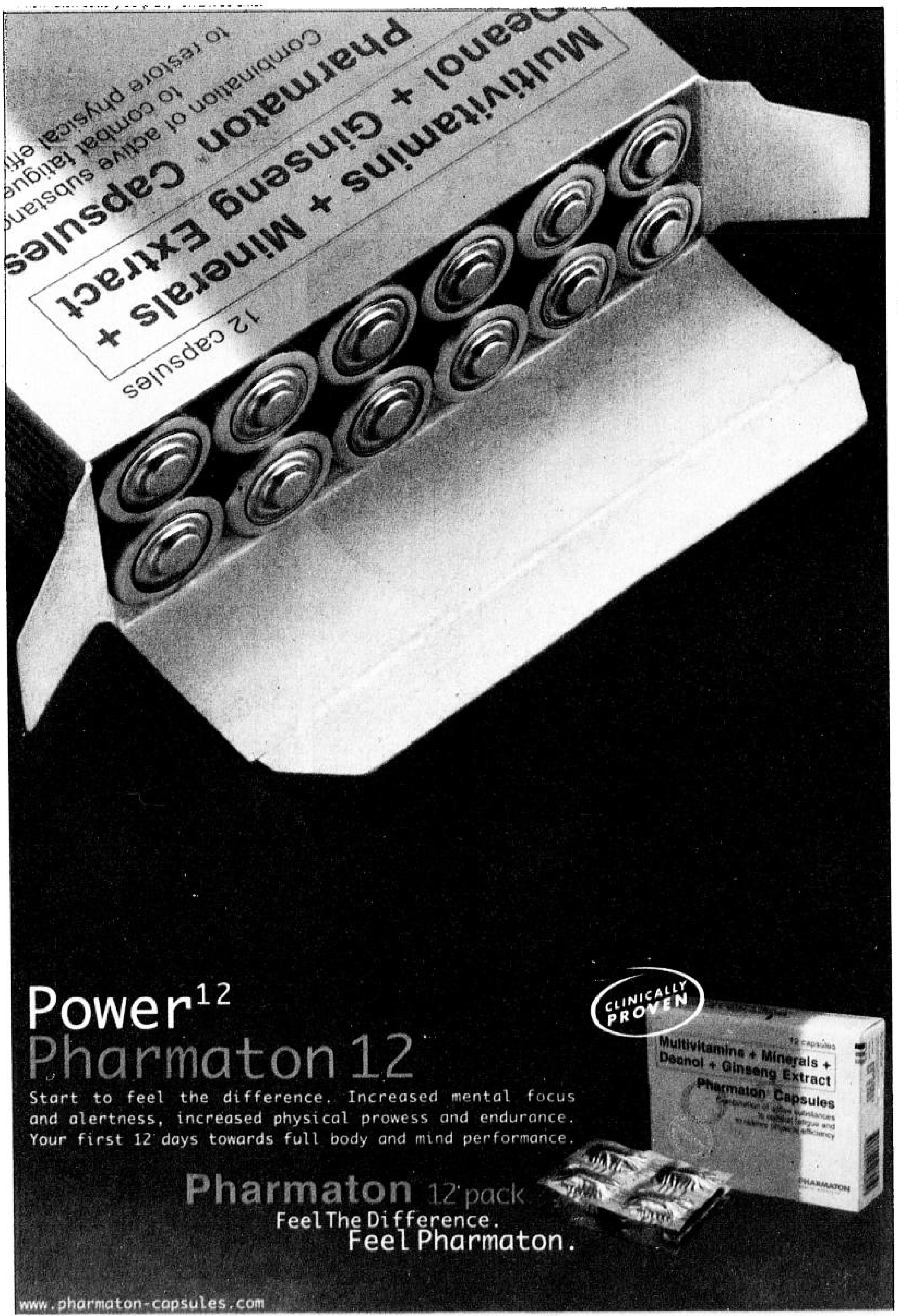

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PHARMATON

This male nurse hopes to be a caregiver

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I'm a nurse and I'd like to work as a caregiver in Canada. I inquired in a training center in Manila, but I was told that women were preferred and my chance of getting hired even after six months of training was not so good because I am a man. The trainees at the center were all women.

I am quite desperate to find a job because I have been unemployed for some years now. Although I have a license, I don't want to practice as a nurse yet.

I am waiting to pass the CGFNS so I can work in America. Passing that exam is, for me, an assurance that I am knowledgeable and competent in my field. At this time, I want to settle for jobs where my license won't be needed. I consider going to Canada as a caregiver, a viable alternative to nursing.

Is it advisable for me to work as a caregiver? Are Filipinos still in demand in Canada? I hope you can give me additional information.

JAMES

To answer your query about the possibility of being a caregiver in Canada, I am sure you have a good chance, but sorry, I don't know how you can become one. My advice is to inquire about the live-in caregiver program through the Canadian Embassy website for information—www.cic.gc.ca/english/work/caregiver-2.html.

If the job is meant for you, it surely will happen.

My unsolicited advice is why don't you take the CGFNS exam? Many nurses are needed in several countries, like the US.

However, there is another side to each coin. Recently the Nursing Resources International Inc. advertised for their need to interview 500 nurses. You can apply there and they will consider your application. E-mail your application to DSPLAIN@Find-a-Nurse.com.

Maybe you can state in your application that you've read about them in this column.

I would like to insist also that being a nurse is quite a blessing. Even physicians today in our country are studying to be nurses. However, there is another side to this coin: caregivers are also needed nowadays, especially when mothers have regular jobs that keep them away from home. *Yayas* are needed, but trained nurses are much preferred. Good luck.

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THE NECKLACE (in pearls and suede) that started it all.

PRECIOUS pillbox with different shapes of jade

BLACK medallion with touches of turquoise

Saying it with beads

Marites Revilla makes a bid for the fashion big time with beads

From page C1

would teach her the art and craft of beading bags. "After school, my sister and I would pick up my mom and she would show us all these beautiful bags that she had lovingly beaded by hand," Marites recalls.

Three years ago, Marites picked up the passion for beading when Swarovski crystals first came in vogue and she found herself making bracelets and necklaces. "I set them aside when they became so common, knowing that they would one day be *uso* again," she says.

A little over a month ago, only daughter Bianca Araneta, a model and VJ for MTV, came up to her with a photograph of a necklace she had seen in a magazine. "She said 'Mom, look how pretty!' It was also so simple *pero* a hundred dollars! I told her, I can make something like that," Marites says. "So she challenged me, *sige nga*, do it. So I looked for the materials and after a couple of days came up with her necklace for a fraction of the price!" she laughs.

From then on, Bianca would ask Marites to create necklaces and lariats for her with matching earrings. "Creating keeps my mind off things and I really derive great satisfaction from being able to make these pieces, and seeing my daughter and my sisters wear them," she smiles.

Unique story

The pieces, which Marites fashions by herself with a little help from her girl Friday Cedes, are indeed lovely, fashionable and one-of-a-kind—each with its own unique story. "I never make identical pieces; they may look similar from afar but up close, there is always a distinct feature to it," she explains. The jewelry has grown in popularity solely by word-of-mouth. "It's not a business, at least that's not the intention," Marites says. "I made pieces for Bianca, then I made some for my sisters, who in turn, showed them to their friends, who would then call and ask about them."

Friends would come to the house looking for pieces for sale, but Marites would have none to show. "These are all from my personal collection, but people have already been placing orders through my sister Pita (tel. 724-0773), who has been helping me cost this whole thing," she laughs. Marites would rather concentrate on the creative process and leave the business side to Pita. "I'm very critical about the pieces I create, so it really gives me great pleasure when the people who buy these pieces are appreciative and admire them, I'm happy *na*."

All over

Marites sources her materials from all over—the malls, *ti angge*, stuff from her own personal collection that date back to the '70s and '80s. "I like taking things apart—a belt buckle, a striking piece from an otherwise *baduy* necklace, things like that," she explains.

She also doesn't stick to just one texture or color. For example, she mixes wood with crystal and silver, or semi-precious stones with coral in varying hues. She also admits that she takes a liking to ethnic-looking pieces but is the first to say that they don't seem to fit her mestiza features. "When I wear them, *parang hindi ko talaga ma*-feel," she says.

What started out as a hobby and mother-daughter bonding activity is now on the threshold of a flourishing business. Marites is reluctant but as the popularity of the attractive accessoriess continues to grow, the calls have kept on coming.

"I don't want to stress myself," she says. Yet, this month, while on a vacation with her sisters, she intends to take private lessons in San Francisco from a beads and accessories shop. She also intends to source materials for her pieces, especially clasps, while in the US.

"Now Bianca is complaining that I no longer have time to make pieces for her!" Marites says.

But Bianca's dogs—Wrinky, a pug; Berry, a shnauzer; Truffles, a cocker spaniel; and Chewy, a Westhighland terrier—have benefited from Marites' craft. "They all have necklaces, too!" Bianca shrieks as she lovingly cuddles her wards.

"Initially, I used magnets for their clasps, but the poor things would get stuck on the refrigerator, so I had to change them to metal clasps instead," Marites says. Now, that's what one would call a dog's life with style.

E-mail the author at chguballa@inquirer.com.ph

LARIAT with different-shaped corals and Swarovski crystals bracelet in silver and coral

LEATHER necklace with large amber pieces

MOM'S LEGACY. The bags that inspired Marites' craft

TWIN BEAUTIES. Bianca wears dark onyx and old silver, while Marites wears a soft stone and a choker in wood and silver.

MISTY WINTER MORNING

For the complexion: **For a cool pink glow, YSL makeup artist Mario Polanco applies Teint Singulier No. 3 on teen model Nikki Revilla. Anti-Cernes Estompeur Multi-Actifs No. 2 conceals her eye circles. Blush Variation No. 9 is swept on her cheeks and forehead.** For the eyes: **Eyeliner Moiré No. 1 is used to emphasize the eyes. The grape shadow from Fards À Paupières Quatuor No. 1 is smudged along the upper lashline and blended across the lid. The pale green shadow lights the arch of her brows. He finishes up with Mascara Volume Effet Faux Cils No. 4.** For the lips: **Lisse Gloss No. 1 is applied for a barely-there stain on the young model's lips.**

The revivified YSL cosmetics line presents its Fall/Winter 2002 look that reaffirms the Saint Laurent image of woman mysterious, woman powerful

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

INDIAN SUMMER

For the complexion: **Polanco uses Teint Singulier No. 4 veil on model Rissa Samson and Anti-Cernes Estompeur Multi-Actifs No. 2 concealer. Touché Eclat No. 1 Luminous Radiance highlighter is applied on the shadows and along the bridge of her nose ("a must for Asians").** For the eyes: **He outlines the eyebrows and the outer corner of the lids with Eyeliner Moiré No. 26, smoothing the golden khaki shade from Fards À Paupières Quatuor No. 2 along the lower lid. The vibrant fig shade is swept across the upper lid. For a deepening effect, he blends the bronze and rust shadows on the arch of the brow. (For crease-less Asian lids, he suggests applying the fig shade along the lid's center with a fingertip.) He uses Mascara Volume Effet Faux Cils No. 1 for a false lash effect.** For the lips: **For a glamorously plump look, he applies Lisse Gloss No. 3.**

Magic of muted and smoky makeup

By Cheche V. Moral

SMOLDERING eyes, wickedly inviting wet lips.

These are Yves Saint Laurent's ideas for welcoming the season with its makeup palettes for Fall/Winter 2002.

Created by newly appointed artistic adviser for makeup Linda Cantello, the fashion house's new makeup collection takes off from the power of suggestion to achieve the season's look. The result is provocatively sensual, not explicitly sexy, subtle instead of intense, sheer and muted, not definitive and heavy. The whole concept for the YSL woman is mysterious and sophisticated, not flashy and flaunting.

Cantello, who has a longstanding working relationship with YSL creative director Tom Ford, is tasked to bring innovative and modern sensibility to YSL Beauté, the house's cosmetics division. By reinventing and breaking rules, she introduces colors and textures in a modern way.

As she presents new additions to the Ligne Intense signature line, Cantello bolsters her reputation in the beauty industry for her unique intuitiveness of discerning what is powerful and womanly, and translating strong and modern femininity into beauty looks that are decisively directional.

Browns and violets

Under Cantello's direction, YSL Beauté has added two new products to the Ligne Intense line. Lisse Gloss is a glossy lip veil in sheer shades of garnets and berries, while Fards À Paupières Quatuor is a four-color eye shadow compact in palettes of dramatic browns and black-tinged violets.

Taking its cue from Ford's Fall/Winter 2002 runway collection that ignored the strictly-for-nighttime-color-and-texture norm, Lisse Gloss has four delicate shades that go from day to night: Crystal Pink, Nude, Cinnamon and Spice. It has a high-intensity, vinyl-like shine that is as fluid and smooth as it is lasting. Lisse Gloss has two exclusive ingredients, Serilisse H and Gold of Pleasure Oil, that nourish and protect lips from dehydration. It is perfect for achieving seductive, fuller-looking and pouty kissers.

For dramatically smoky peepers, limited edition Fards À Paupières Quatuor's colors are evocative of nature, the radiance of a warm Indian summer for the Sensual Brown palette, or the haze of a misty winter morning for the Dusk Mauve palette. The colors are decidedly muted, with colors taken down a few tones and blended to achieve a smoky look. This is Cantello's idea of the modern way to use color.

Indian summer, misty winter

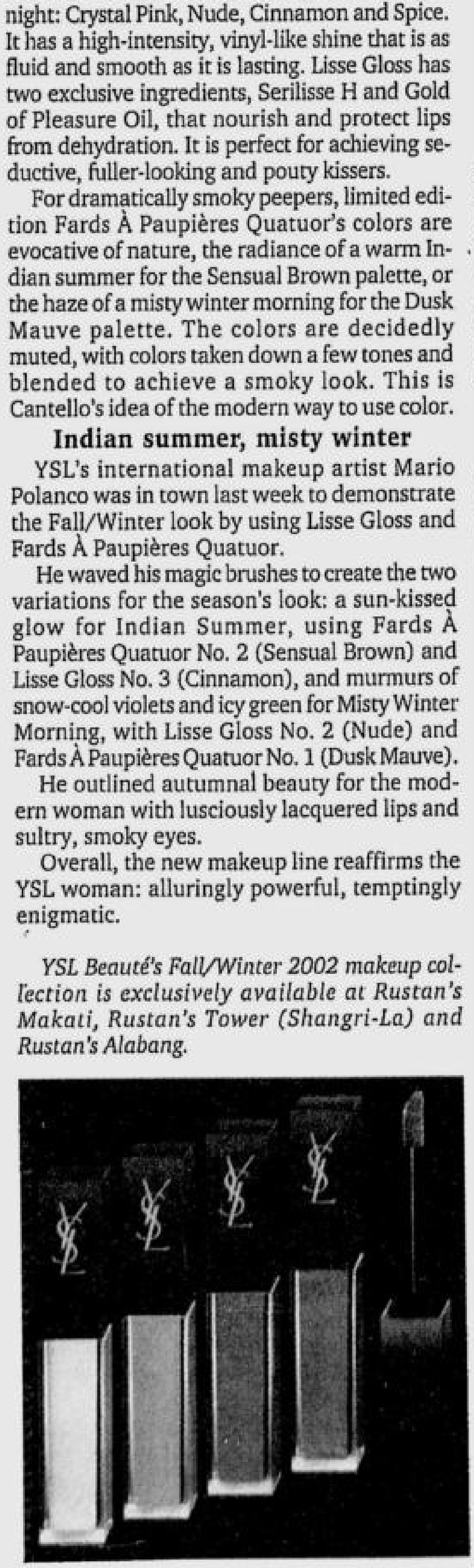
YSL's international makeup artist Mario Polanco was in town last week to demonstrate the Fall/Winter look by using Lisse Gloss and Fards À Paupières Quatuor.

He waved his magic brushes to create the two variations for the season's look: a sun-kissed glow for Indian Summer, using Fards À Paupières Quatuor No. 2 (Sensual Brown) and Lisse Gloss No. 3 (Cinnamon), and murmurs of snow-cool violets and icy green for Misty Winter Morning, with Lisse Gloss No. 2 (Nude) and Fards À Paupières Quatuor No. 1 (Dusk Mauve).

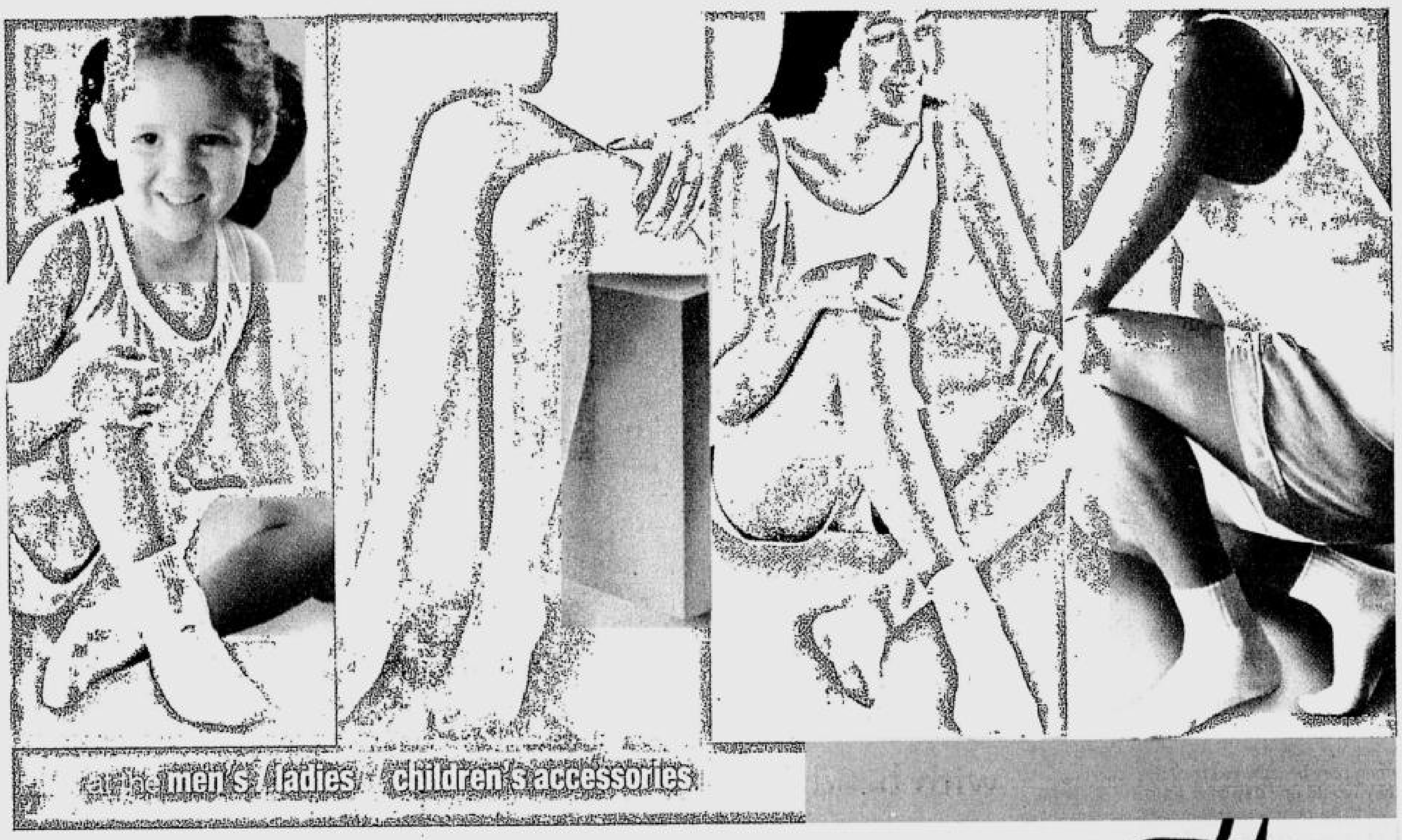
He outlined autumnal beauty for the modern woman with lusciously lacquered lips and sultry, smoky eyes.

Overall, the new makeup line reaffirms the YSL woman: alluringly powerful, temptingly enigmatic.

YSL Beauté's Fall/Winter 2002 makeup collection is exclusively available at Rustan's Makati, Rustan's Tower (Shangri-La) and Rustan's Alabang.



LISSE Gloss No. 1 (Crystal Pink), No. 2 (Nude), No. 3 (Cinnamon) and No. 4 (Spice)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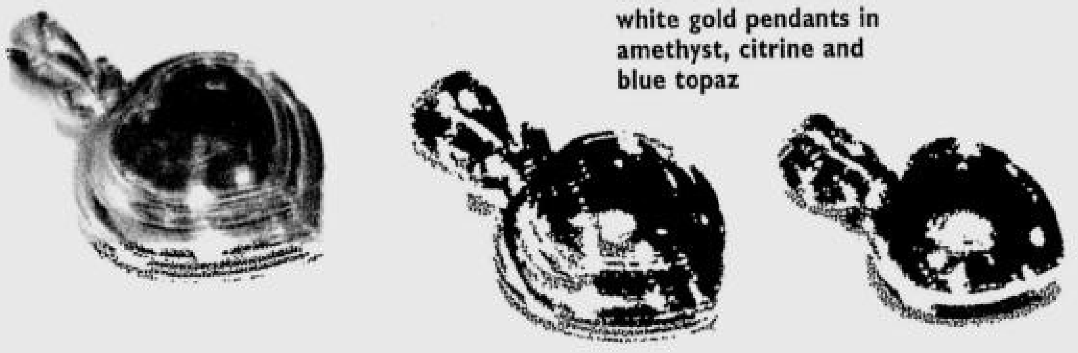
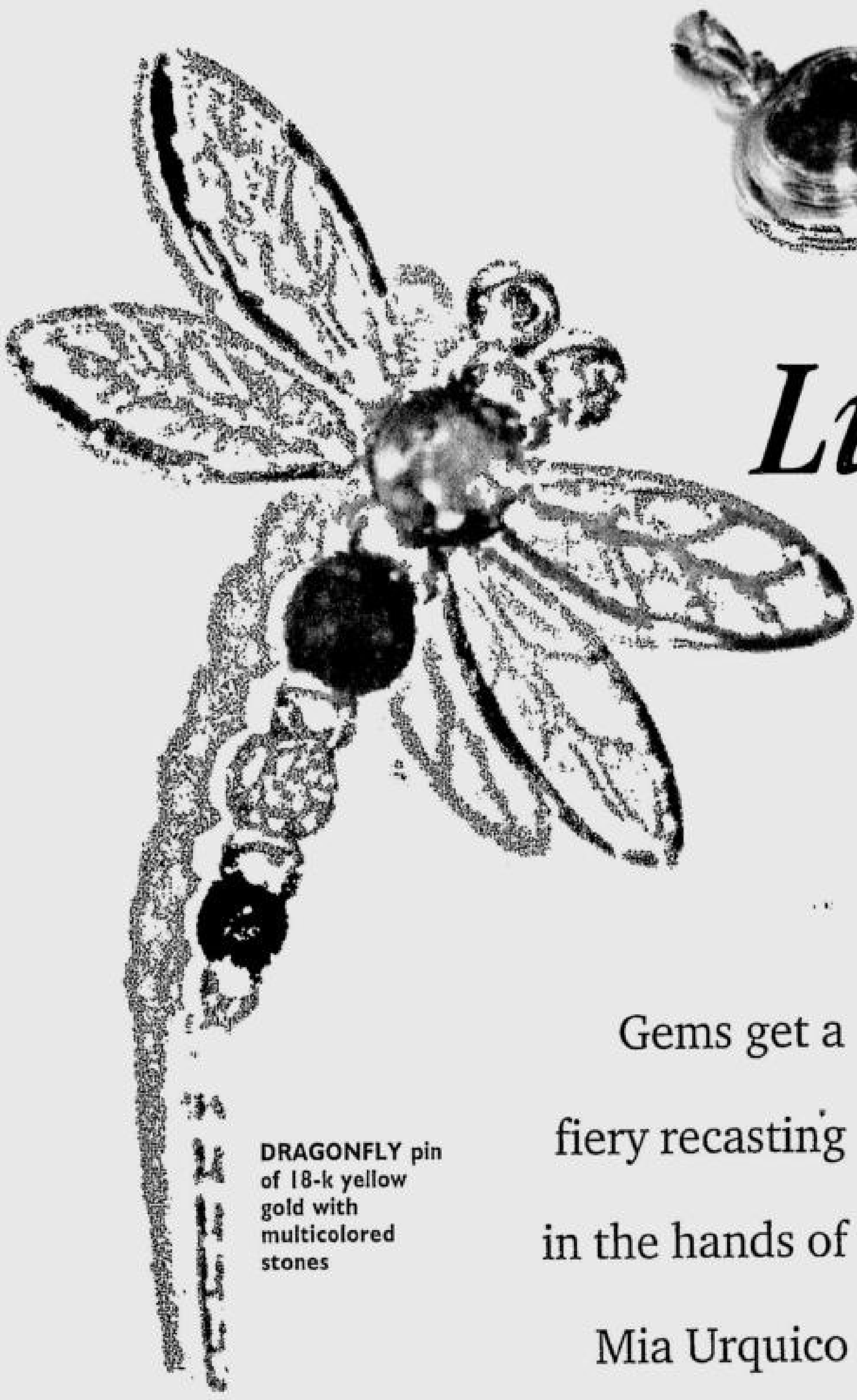

TRIO OF HEARTS. 18-K white gold pendants in amethyst, citrine and blue topaz


DRAGONFLY pin of 18-k yellow gold with multicolored stones

Luminescent eye candies

Gems get a fiery recasting in the hands of Mia Urquico

THEY look good enough to eat. Some call them gemstones, others semi-precious stones. By whatever name, they look like hard candy whose bright, happy and rich colors seem like they were plucked directly from the rainbow. Mia Urquico is the young designer who fashions these gemstones into unique and attractive accessories that add color and sparkle to the simplest outfits.

Set in 18-karat gold and white gold, the stones are sourced from various Asian countries. Mia designs the settings herself and has them handmade by a jewelry maker based abroad. "Each stone has a specfic meaning and appeals to a certain type of individual," she says. "Sometimes they also pick the color depending on the outfit they will wear it with."

Mia derives inspiration from magazines and books. "When I come up with a design, I also make sure that it's something that I would wear," she says. Less expensive than diamonds but still quite pricey, the gems appeal to women in their late 20s to early 50s. The colors are truly eye-catching and the designs quite hip. Thus, it would take a certain type of personality to be able to wear these pieces with panache. The more conservative ladies would perhaps be safer with diamonds and pearls.

Each particular gem has its own particular qualities and its own story. Citrine, for example, is a beautiful yellow stone whose name is derived from the French name for lemon—"citron." The gem's varying yellow color comes from trace elements of iron. It is also a popular alternative to the much more expensive yellow sapphire or yellow diamond. The stone can be easily scratched and often permanently changes color if left in the sunlight or heat for several hours. Citrine is said to symbolize hope, youth, health and fidelity.

Dream into reality

The bright green peridot is a volcanic gem, a beautiful stone created during volcanic action. It is typically found in volcanic rock formations and on occasion, in meteorites. This particular stone enjoys the distinction of being the only precious gem known to exist in outer space. Mystics believe that wearing peridot helps turn dreams into reality. It is also given as a symbol of fame, dignity and protection. According to legend, pirates favored this stone to protect them against evil, and when set in gold, it also supposedly protects the wearer from the terrors in the night.

Purple, lilac and mauve quartz is called amethyst, the highest quality of which is transparent. It is also an affordable purple gemstone. The amethyst stone is often given as a symbol of sincerity, security and peace of mind. During the medieval period, the stone was considered to be a strong antidote to drunkenness, which is why wine goblets were often carved from it.

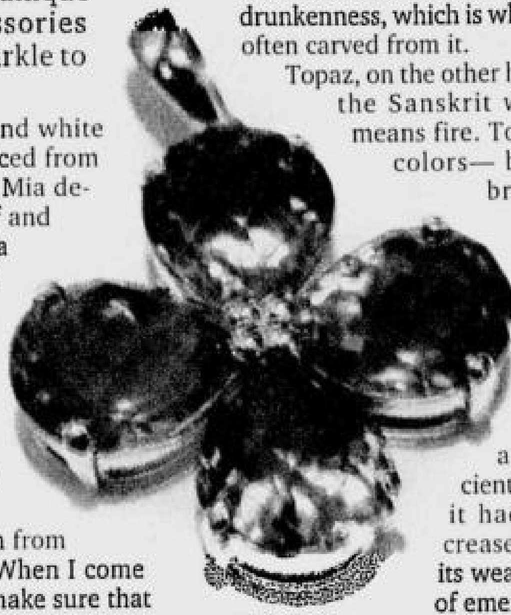
Topaz, on the other hand, is derived from the Sanskrit word *tapas*, which means fire. Topaz comes in many colors— blue, yellow, pink, brown, green, and clear. In ancient times, a figure of a falcon was carved on a topaz and was thought to acquire the goodwill of kings, princes and magnates. Ancient Greeks believed that it had the power to increase strength and make its wearer invisible in times of emergency.

Whichever color you pick and whatever reasons you may have for wearing these stones, you're sure to make heads turn by the sheer brilliance of these eye candies.

Cathy Babao Guballa

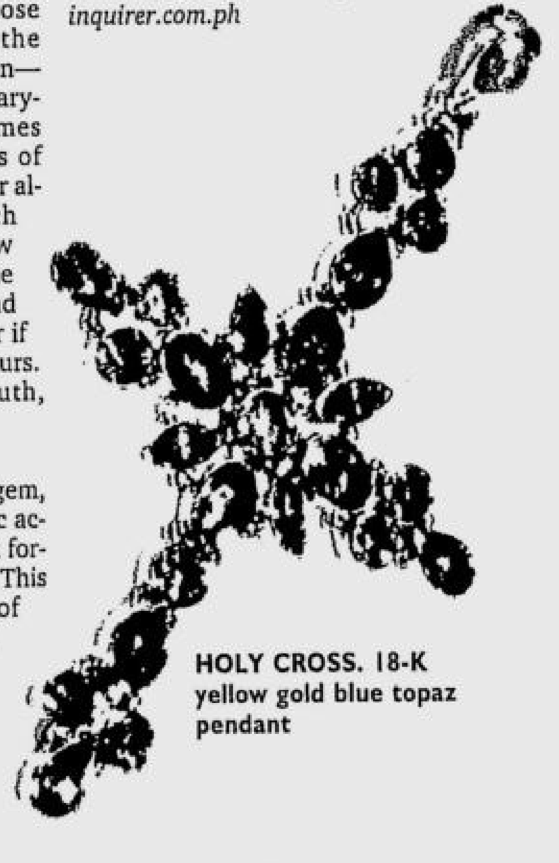
Jewelry available at MICO, 3/F, Shangri-La Mall Ortigas

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph

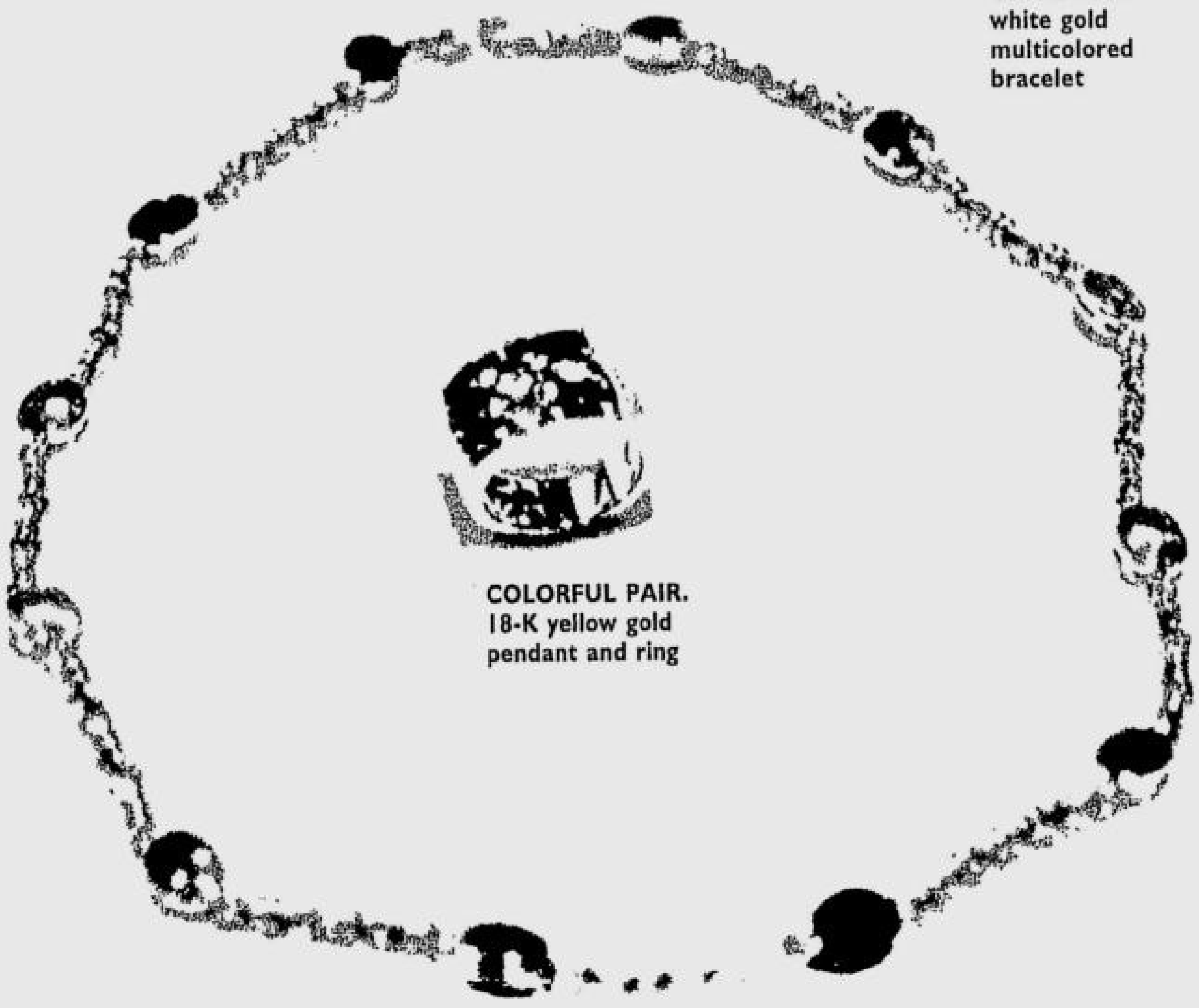

18-K citrine flower-shaped pendant

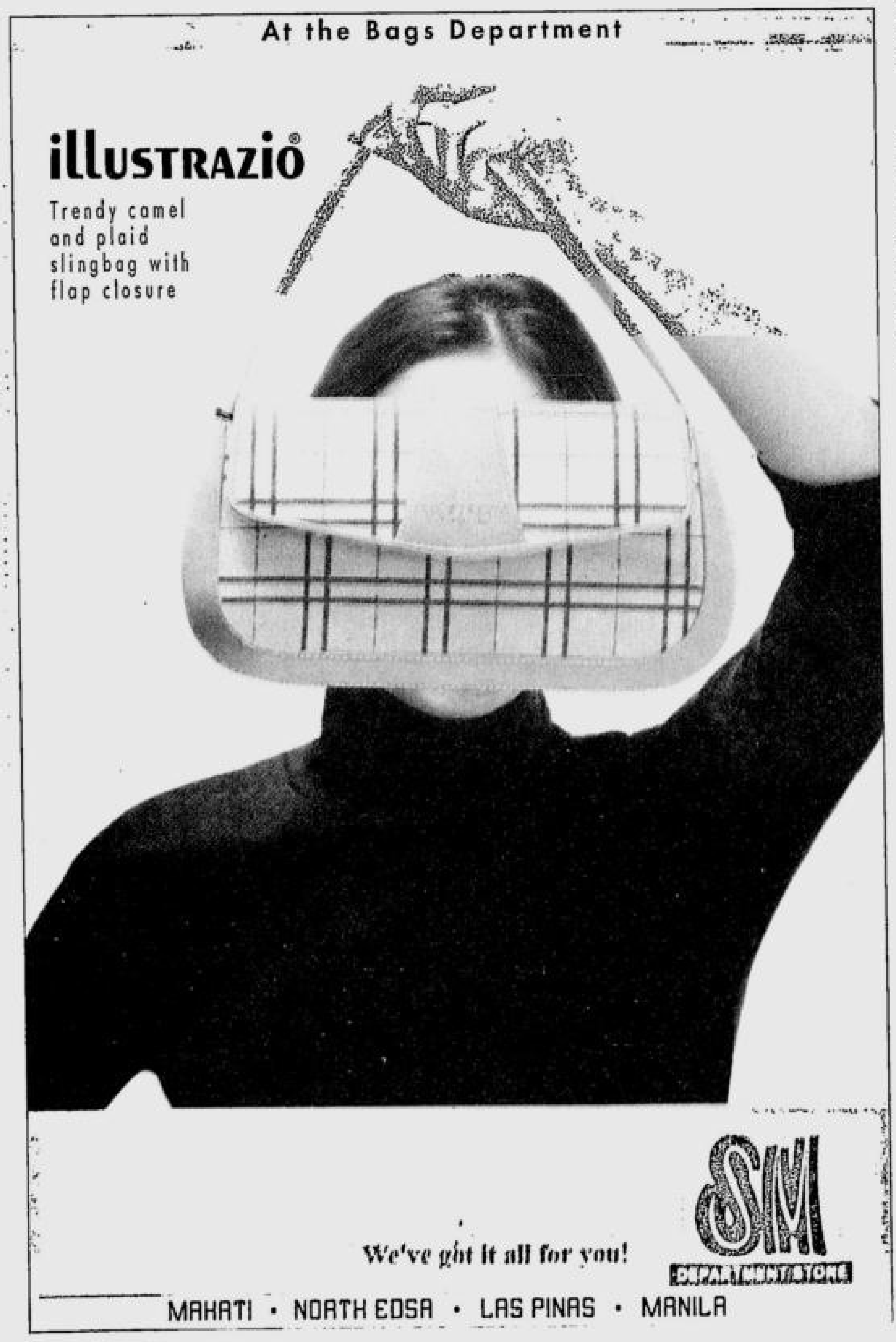
DANGLERS. 18-K blue topaz and peridot earrings

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA


HOLY CROSS. 18-K yellow gold blue topaz pendant

CHARMER. 18-K white gold multicolored bracelet


COLORFUL PAIR. 18-K yellow gold pendant and ring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GOINGS-ON

IF YOU think you have the talent, skills and creativity in hairdressing, then don't miss the chance to join Schwarzkopf's Philippine Hairdressing Awards 2002. Deadline for submission is on Aug. 31. Entry forms are still available at Top Style Marketing Inc. (Schwarzkopf's Philippine licensee) at 25PA Eisenhower Condominium, Eisenhower Street, Greenhills, San Juan. Call 726-8507 to 08 and 722-0278. Final judging will be on Sept. 9, while the much-awaited awards ceremony will be on Oct. 15 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel. The search is open to all professional and commercial hairdressers.

PROMO. Hang Ten gives you optimum value for your money this month as it offers its stylishly sporty caps for free with every P800 minimum purchase of Hang Ten merchandise. Available in beige and yellow colors, Hang Ten caps are a trendy and practical headgear this rainy season for both men and women. The promo will run until Aug. 31. There are 31 Hang Ten branches all over Metro Manila, Batangas, Cabanatuan, Cebu, Iloilo, Davao and Pampanga. Soon to open are Hang Ten branches in Bicutan, Laguna and Cagayan de Oro.

FORUM. The Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines will hold a half-day forum, "Cycle Time Management," on Sept. 6, 1:30-4:30 p.m., at SM Megamall, Mega Trade Hall B Function A. Call 734-7371, 521-7223 or 524-2706.

STA. ISABEL REUNION. Sta. Isabel College is holding an alumni homecoming on Sept. 15 at the covered court on Taft Avenue, Manila. Wear your ponchos, chalecos, sombreros in keeping with the Mexican motif. Registration starts at 1:30 p.m. Call 638-0566 or 550-1481.

LETRAN HOMECOMING. Communication Arts alumni of the Colegio de San Juan de Letran will gather tonight at 6. Highlighting the activity is the visit to the Media Center that showcases multimedia equipment that are now available for use by CA students in their production classes.

PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINAR. The Basic Photography Seminar for 2002 under the auspices of the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation Inc. (FPPFI) and Fujufilm and Intramuros Administration will start on Sept. 9 at the Yslas Restaurante, Fort Santiago, Intramuros, Manila, and will run for four consecutive Sundays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 813-7420/843-5341 or e-mail ppfpwm@pacific.net.ph, or visit FPPFI at 7/F Comfoods Building, Sen.Gil Puyat Avenue corner Chino Roces Street, Makati City.

MEDITATION COURSE. Amy P. Cavosora combines color therapy with the psycho-spiritual teachings in "A Course in Miracles." Classes on Color Meditation is set on Sept. 11 at Ink & Stone Bookshop at The Podium, Ortigas, and on Sept. 15 at Brews and Browns in Sterten Place, Teacher's Village East, QC. Call 925-2795 or (0917) 608-9625.

EXHIBIT. The Organic Producers and Trade Association will present "Organic Harvest Festival" on Sept. 12-15 with the theme "Discovering the Natural Lifestyle: A Blend of Nature and Science" at the 4/L of Robinsons Galleria, Ortigas Avenue. It will showcase organic health foods and drinks, personal care products, alternative/herbal medicines, equipment and machinery, organic live stock and dairy. A fashion show featuring the creations of Patis Tesoro and Dita Sandico-Ong will highlight the event. Call 726-4128 to 30 or 371-2347 and 373-5474.

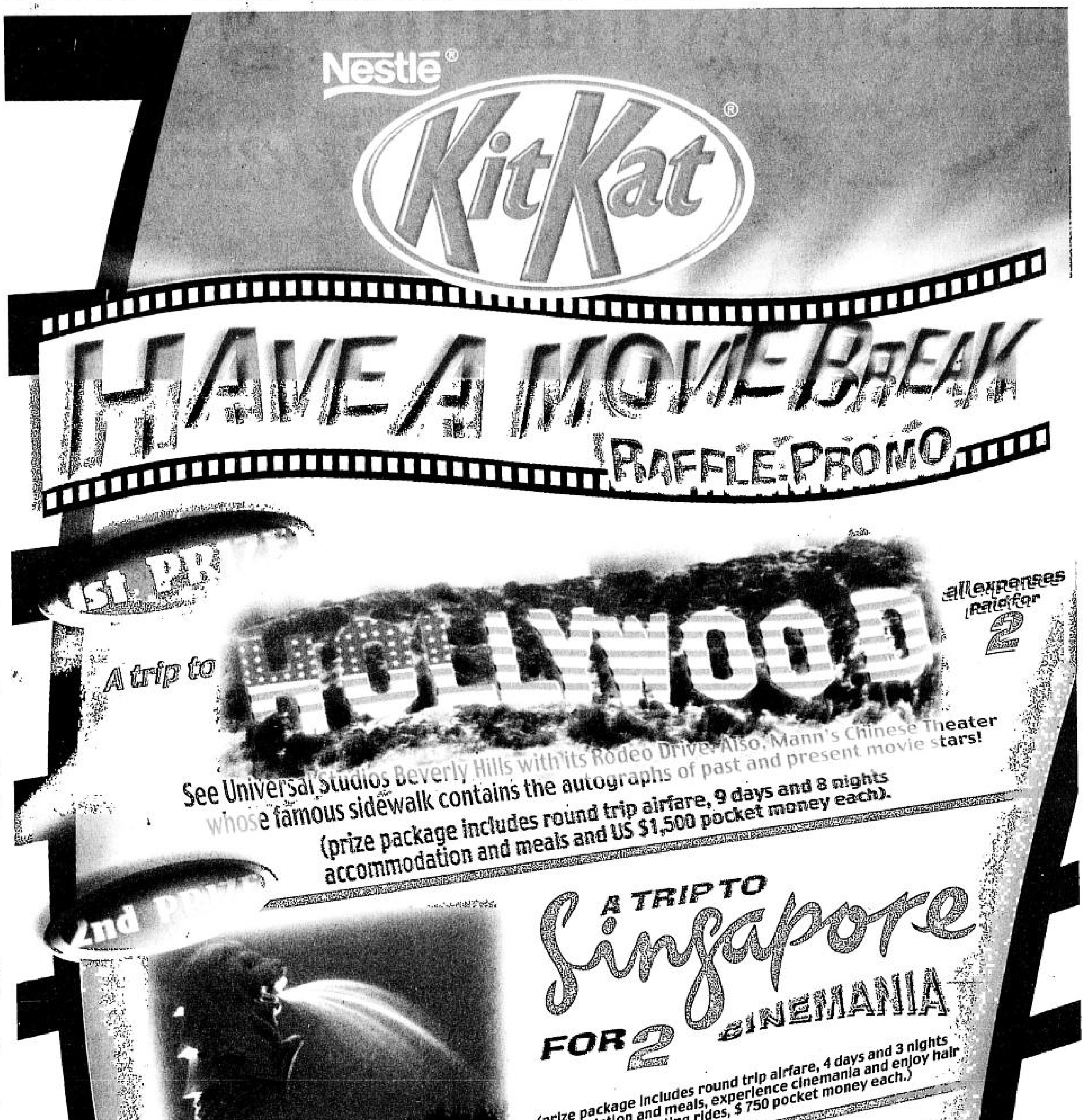
SEMINAR. What does it take to have an extraordinary life—every single day? The Landmark Education Forum will hold a three-day seminar on Sept. 13-15 at the RCBC Plaza, Makati. Topics will focus on how to improve personal relationships,. how to be more effective and productive, and how to bring about a permanent and positive shift in our lives. Call 722-4573, 851-8500, (0917) 667-9774, (0917) 910-4388.

BAZAAR. The Noel Christmas Bazaar at the Manila Polo Club is set on Oct. 26 and 27. The remaining schedule of events includes a stop at The Enterprise Center along Ayala Avenue in Makati on Nov. 13-15. Call 687-0654/2955/7523.

WORKSHOP. The Cultural Center of the Philippines presents the 2002 Hands-On Choral Workshop for amateur choirs on Oct. 7-11, for Level I and on Oct. 14-18, Level II, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 2-5 p.m. The workshop will be conducted by Prof. Andrea Veneracion, National Artist for Music, and the Philippine Madrigal Singers. CCP Hands-On Choral Workshop will compete in the 2002 Choral Olympics in Busan, Korea in October. CCP will present "Mga Koro ng Bayan" on Sept. 14, 8 p.m., at the Tanghalang Nicanor Abelardo.

METROBANK Card Corporation teams up with Abenson's zero percent on home appliances until Sept. 15. Simply use your Metrobank credit cards at any of Abenson branches and feast on quality brands at no interest for three, six, nine and 12 months. For appliances and those covered by the zero percent interest promo, the lowest installment rates for up to 12 months are offered. Metrobank credit cards accepted for this promo are Metrobank Unicard, Metrobank Visa and Metrobank MasterCard. Call 870-0700.

MEGA Magazine joins forces with L'Oreal Professionnel Color Trophy Awards for the second year. The L'Oreal Color Trophy is considered the Oscars of the hairstyling world. Today's the deadline for all entries, to be submitted at the L'Oreal Professionnel offices located at 23/F Robinson Equitable Tower, ADB Avenue corner Poveda Street, Ortigas Center. All entries must be accompanied by two 5x7" colored headshots and must not have been submitted previously to any other hairdressing competition. Finalists will be notified on Sept. 23. Call 687-4967.



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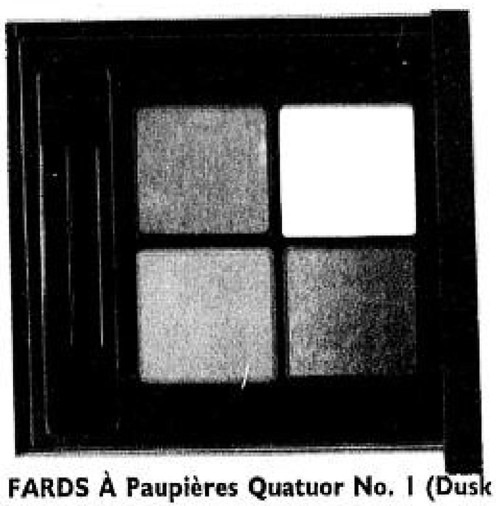
Magic of muted and smoky makeup

Story on page C5



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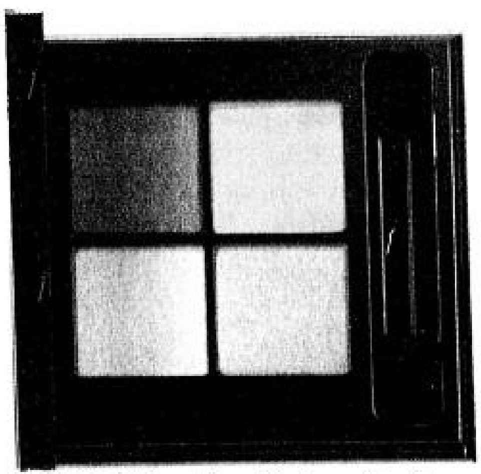

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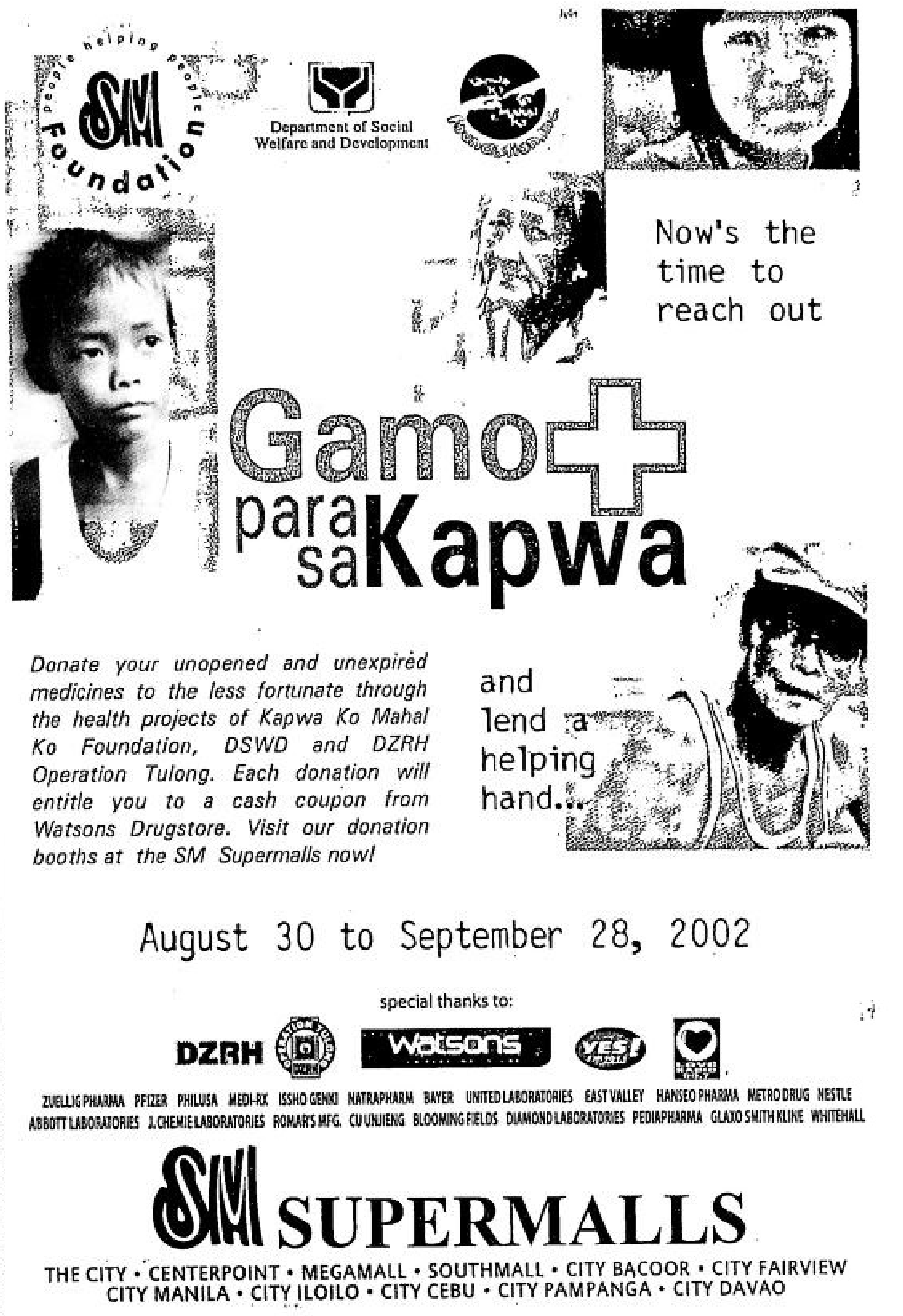
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Trend Inquirer LIFESTYLE

Before and during a 'viral break'

LIFE-STYLED

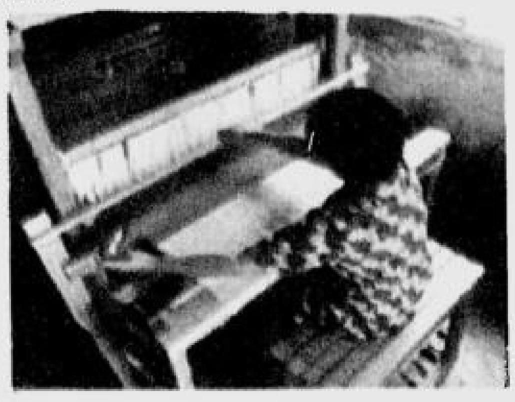
Thelma Sioson San Juan

I WAS one of many who, the past week, took what I call the "viral break." Bad throat, nagging cough, flu mode—the virus was clearly in the air, pervasive enough for you to catch and strong enough to take over your body and put it on a standstill.

Body at forced rest—no gym, no tennis and no office life (can't have everything, can you?). Better people would take that as a chance to meditate, generally keep still. Not me, I'm no Zen creature, not yet.

Shanghaied from work, I do what to me comes naturally—I turn to fiction. It was a good chance to turn a bad virus into sheer luxury—reading, not magazines (which to me is work), not newspapers, but fiction, which liberates your mind from the shackles of daily issues, and lets it roam free in other people's

BEFORE/ p.D7



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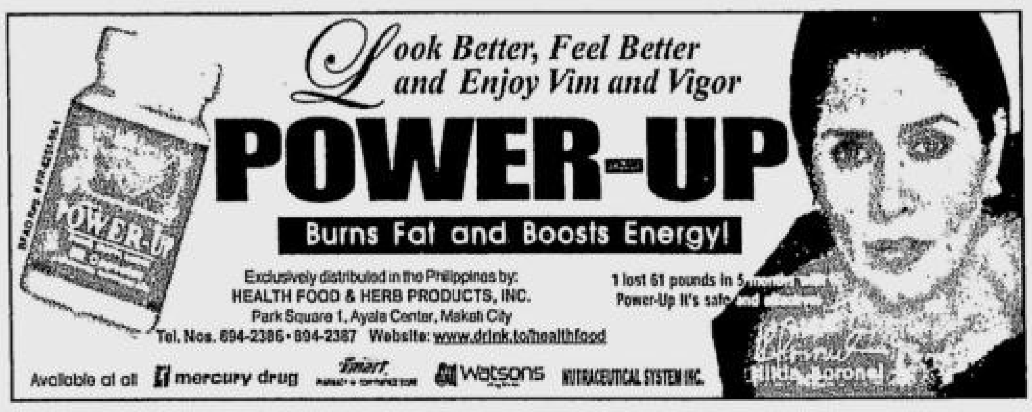
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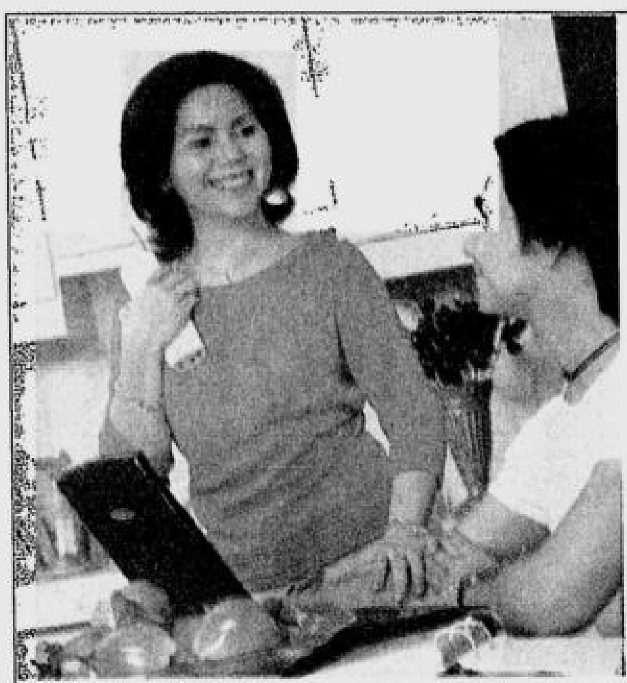

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Zina Rosales,
events planner, mother of two teenagers,
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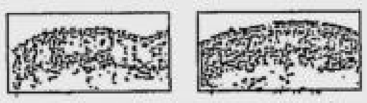

Ultrasound images of the skin structure: First photo shows photodamaged dermis; second photo shows denser structure which implies better support and ability to hold moisture.

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*Test conducted during 4 weeks on 40 women. **Test conducted during 3 weeks on 118 women. ***17/20 : "Very good"

STILL a hot property after all these years, Carmi Martin strikes a pose à la Catherine Zeta Jones.

THE ACTRESS in a glamorous mode in Larry Espinosa's corset gown

Just another working girl in class

Now pursuing an interior design certificate, Carmi Martin shows she is no bimbo

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina

IT'S no joke mixing show-biz commitments with studies, especially if you're as serious and as passionate a student as Carmi Martin. The actress still finds time to attend morning classes at the Philippine School of Interior Design in between long hours of taping.

Best known for her bimbo roles on prime-time TV, Carmi has been pursuing a certificate course in interior design for almost two years now. After almost 23 years in show biz, the 39-year-old actress is experiencing a new kind of high not in front of the cameras, but within the four walls of the classroom.

"I still have 36 units to go," she says, after posing for a series of fashion shoots in her Makati apartment. "I'm supposed to be finished by now, but I'm not taking the full load. I want to take my time to grasp what's being discussed in school."

As if the regular exams weren't enough, Carmi has had to devote a substantial amount of her time working on plates and doing research. There were times, for instance, when exam week coincided with several emotionally draining scenes on the set of GMA's "Kahit Kailan."

Humbling experience

"That was hard," she says. "My mind was so drained on the set that I just wanted to lie down and sleep."

Going back to school has also been a humbling experience, especially for someone as famous as Carmi. Earlier, for instance, she and several classmates trooped all the way to Napoleon Abueva's home in Quezon City to interview him for a research paper.

They've been trying for weeks to pin down the National Artist to no avail. That morning was their only chance to interview him before he flies to Europe for a two-week vacation.

HAIR AND MAKEUP:
JERRY CASIL OF PIANDRE,
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CARMI MARTIN'S PAD
IN MAKATI

CARMI relives summer in an off-shoulder printed dress by Sari-sari.

"It has now become the other way around," says Carmi. "I'm now the one chasing after people for an interview. But it was worth it since Abueva was such a pleasant and interesting subject."

As the group's leader, Carmi wrote all of the questions based on research she herself did on Abueva. That was another thing she learned early on after interacting with classmates almost half her age: "I have to take the initiative most of the time to speed things up."

Carmi employs the same disarming ways, which have served her well as an actress, in winning new friends in school. If not for the blow-dried hair and light makeup, she looks every inch like everyone's big sister in casual clothes. She has no driver, let alone an *alalay* to attend to her every need. Most important, she comes to school on time and prepared.

Supportive

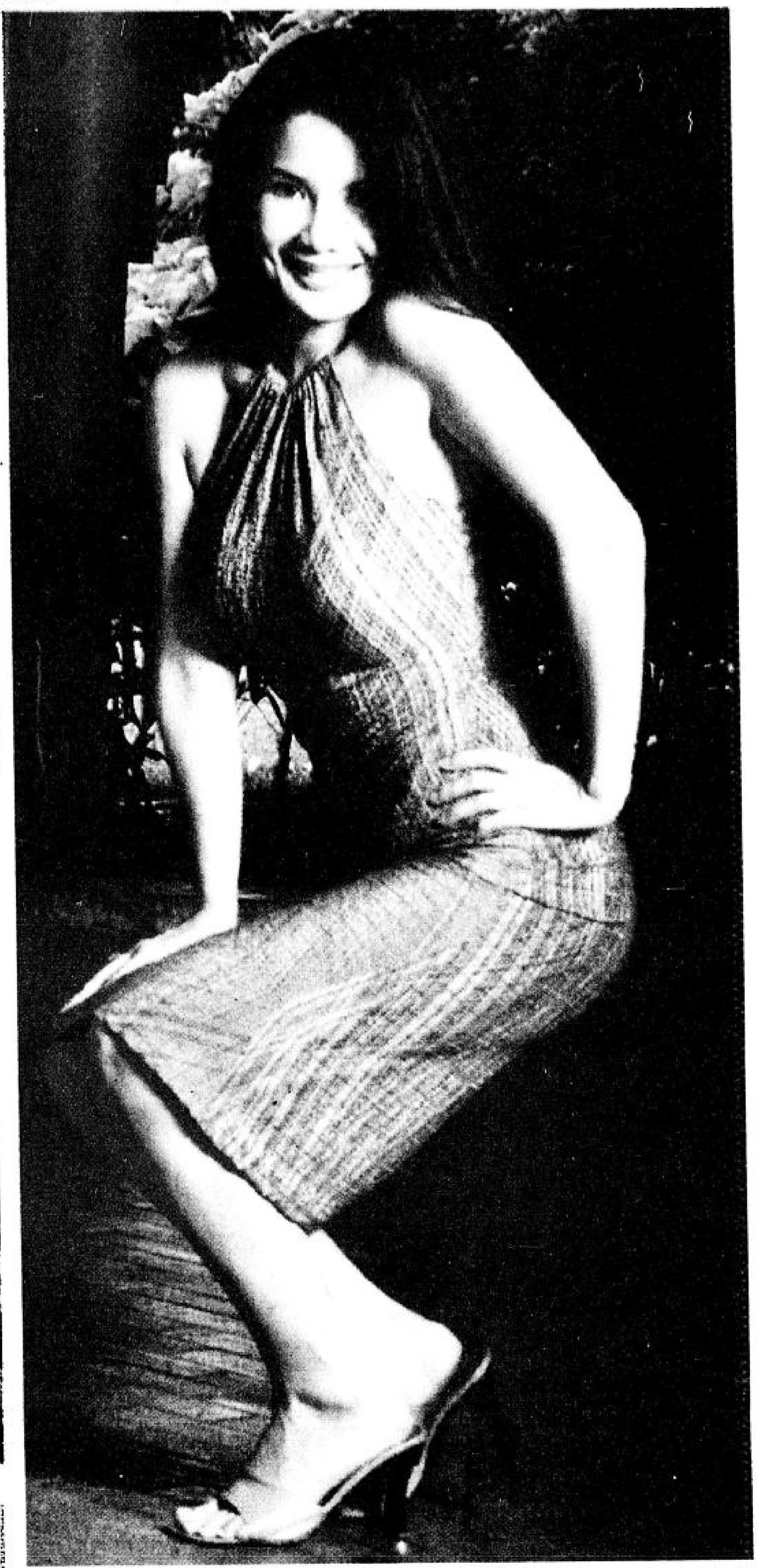
"Like everybody else," she says, "I've had my share of ribbing from certain professors. I've been shouted at several times. I try to win them over by showing my funny side. Whatever my deficiencies are, I try to make up for them through my ideas."

There have been other celebrities who entered PSID before, but unlike Carmi many of them didn't last beyond the first semester. She had been going to school under the same impression until she proved skeptics wrong. Now, both her classmates and teachers are very supportive of her.

Surprisingly, Carmi didn't have to sacrifice her show-biz commitments in the pursuit of a "second career." "It's a matter of prioritizing my schedule," she says. "Of course, I have to give up certain things like watching TV for hours and going to the mall without a definite plan."

She credits good friend Tessie Tomas for encouraging her to go back to school. "I was feeling sort of restless back then," she says. "I didn't know whether to get married or what until Tessie came up with the idea."

Carmi's love affair with interior design dates back to her early years in show biz. After buying a pad in Makati, she lost no time decorating the place herself. The "contemporary minimalist" look with a black-and-white furniture scheme invariably caught her friends' attention.



CHICK TO CHICK. Carmi goes to the gym regularly and sticks to a no-rice diet to be able to maintain her figure and slip into this slinky halter, a gift from her US-based sister.

Choosy

"I used to hold parties here regularly," she says. "They couldn't believe I did the interiors myself. They said I have good taste."

These days, Carmi's priorities extend to her choice of show-biz projects. In fact, she has turned down several movie offers that require her to do the usual sexy roles. Her days as a bumbling bombshell are also over. She's quite happy doing a soap opera and the occasional TV guesting.

"It's all about the role and the script," she says. "If I don't like what the movie or TV program sells, I'd rather not do it. At this point I want to be recognized for my acting ability."

Despite starring in such unforgettable films as Ishmael Bernal's "Working Girls" and Lino Brocka's "Hot Property," Carmi has yet to win an acting award..No man, from within or outside show biz, has yet to win her heart either.

"I've had serious relationships before," she says. "Many have popped the question, but I've always managed to stop short of saying yes."

She has just been through a relationship, but she's not revealing any details about it. For all her candidness, she's no Kris Aquino who readily discloses affairs of the heart in public. Nor is she likely to fall for a colleague in show biz.

"I have lots of friends," she says with grin, "but I'm not telling you whom I'm praying for. You'll know before I get married." Hint? He doesn't have to be handsome as long as he's witty and a good conversationalist.

Stable family

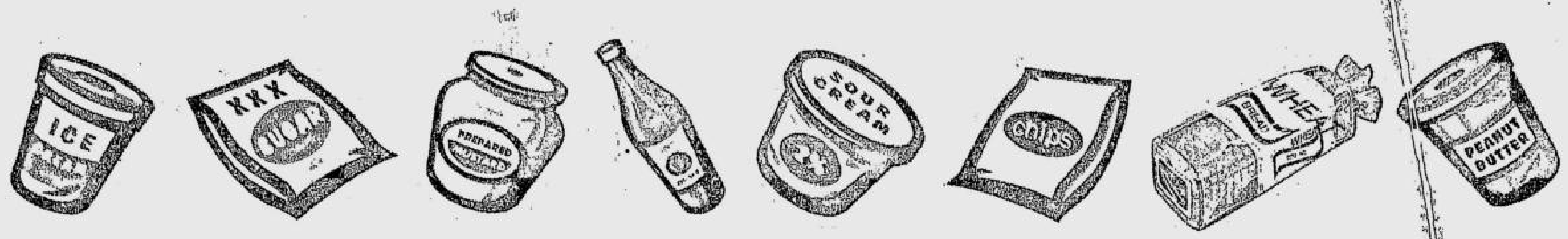
The third in a brood of five, Carmi takes pride in the fact that she grew up in a stable family. After being widowed several years ago, her mother has remarried and is now based in New York. The daughter dreams of someday raising a happy family herself and leading a quiet married life soon, even if her biological clock is ticking away fast.

"I love children," she says. "I'm concerned about that, but I'm more concerned about how to raise my future kids properly." With a second career in interior design to fall back on, money won't be a likely problem for working girl Carmi Martin even if good show biz offers run out.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

A SPAGHETTI-STRAPPED dress with diagonal lines by Vittorio flatters Carmi's whistle-bait figure.

WORKING girl Carmi in a white wraparound blouse by Sari-sari and black pencil-cut skirt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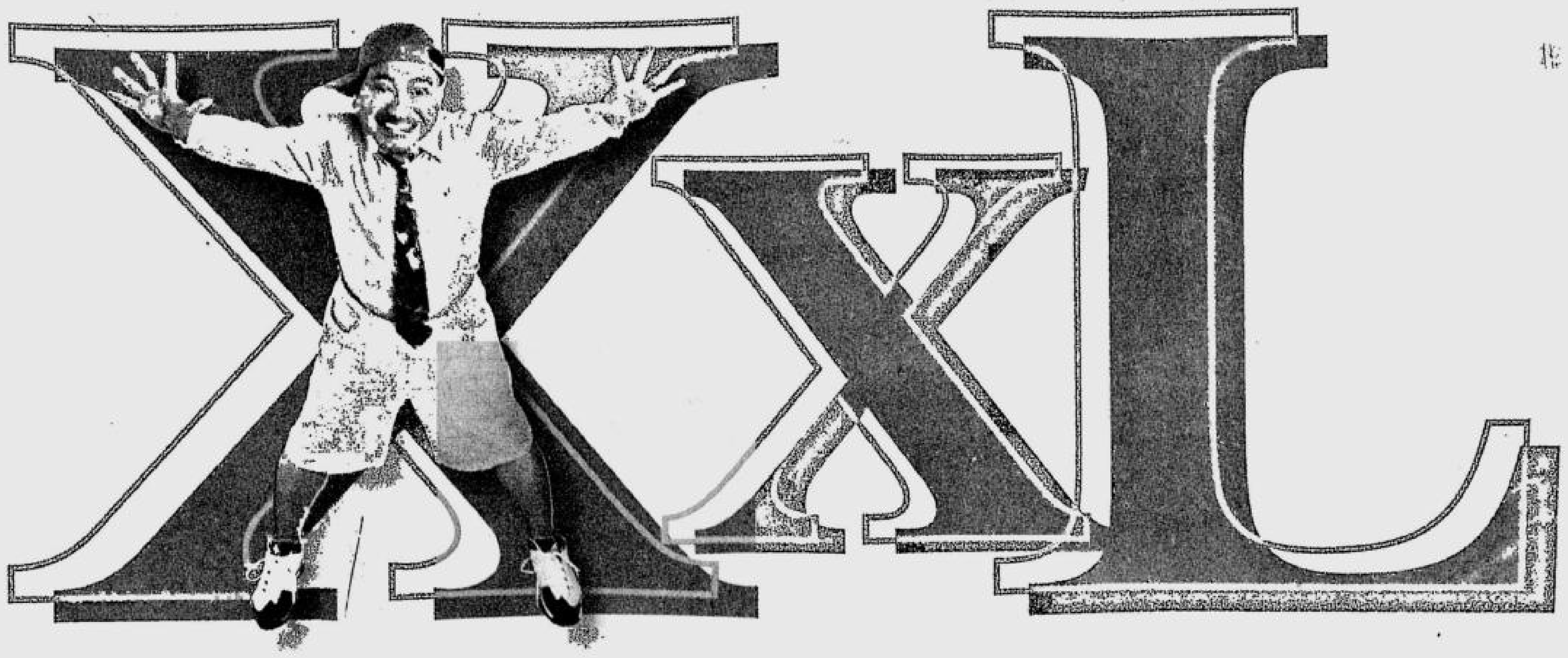

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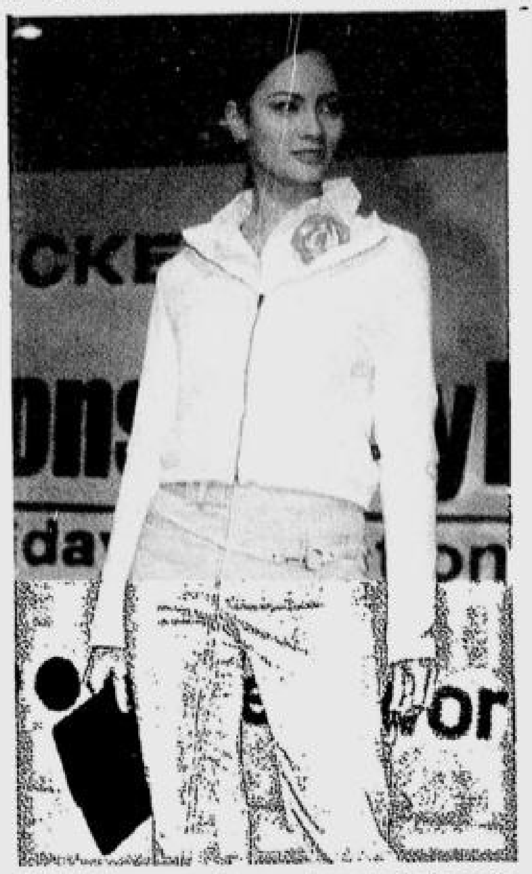
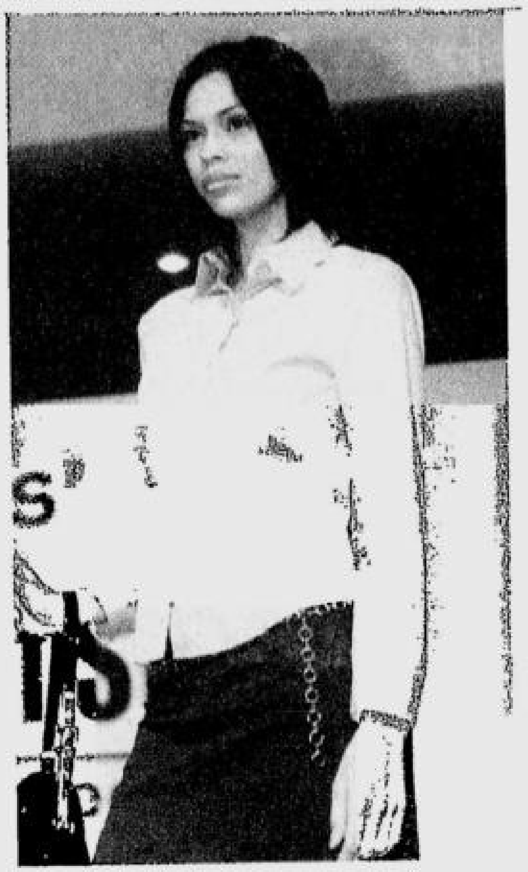


ZIPPED ivory cardigan and cream flash pants, with matching faux flower and cord belt



BASIC long-sleeve top and skirt

COMPLETE the business wear with black Italian leather belt.

At-work, at-play wear

Dockers seeks to blur the lines between office and after-office fashions

By Anne A. Jambora

IT'S always a fashion dilemma what to wear at work and what to slip on afterward, when the lazy evening casts its seductive spell over the city, begging the stressed-out career men and women to relax. Bringing extra clothes to work can be cumbersome, and braving the traffic to go home and dress up can only wear down an already tired body.

Come September, Dockers will launch the Style @ Work campaign that aims to bring fashion and comfort at work and at play in one ensemble. Forget about worrying what to wear during night-outs after office. With the new Dockers Fall-Holiday collection, men and women can finally don one get-up that will take them anywhere—from the boardroom to the bars, from desk to the movie houses—without looking tacky and stiff.

Yes, it's business and casual wear rolled into one, stylish yet preserving the serious professional demeanor needed to close that deal. Gone are the days when career women have to dress up like men in boring black blazers over white shirt and slacks, rigid suits that neglect the essence of feminine grace.

Men are not exempted from the makeover. Yuppie businessmen can update their wardrobe into something more playful and casual, a departure from the unapproachable and intimidating impression, especially useful when subordinates are supposed to talk to them openly about ideas.

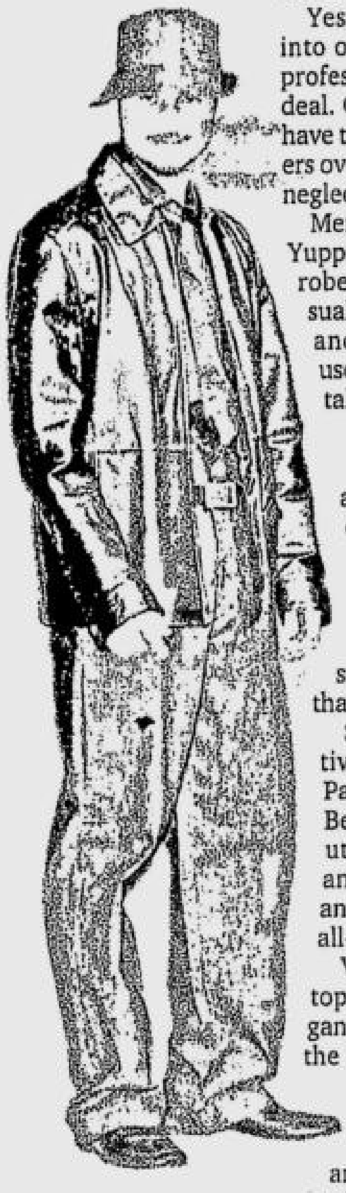
Comfort

In line with Dockers' philosophy of creating acceptable office attires is the use of soft colors. Nothing loud here, of course, just the right tones and shades to add life and verve to an otherwise dull office routine. The intention is to balance work and leisurewear. Hues are subtle, and the clothes laid-back and sexy that command presence just the same.

Since Dockers' wrinkle-free, spill-protective and strong seam technology Mobile Pants earned it the Time magazine's 2001 Best Innovation award, expect nothing but utter comfort in this new garb. The cuts and designs allow for ease of movement, and the fabric, soft and breathable for that all-day/all-night comfort.

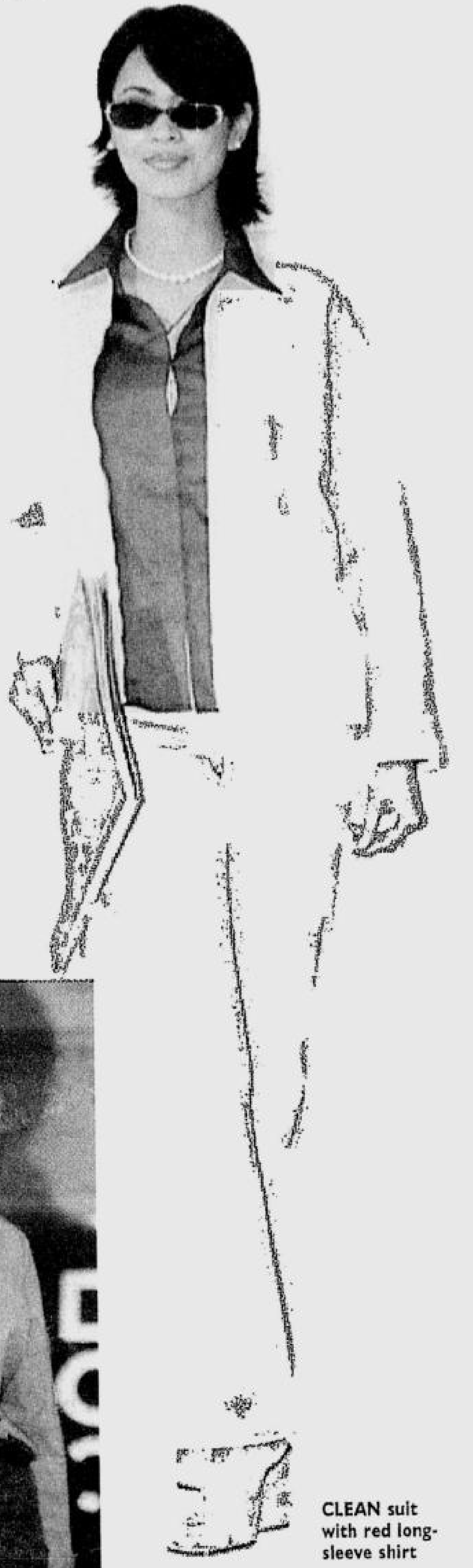
Versatile pants and skirts, woven and knit tops, modern jackets, sweaters and cardigans in various styles and colors are among the items to choose from. The Fall-Holiday collection also has woven and stitched leather belts, leather wallets, baseball and mesh caps, dress and crew socks and men's undergarments. Men's accessories include pouches, travel bags, backpacks and laptop briefcases.

E-mail the author at ajambora@inquirer.com.ph

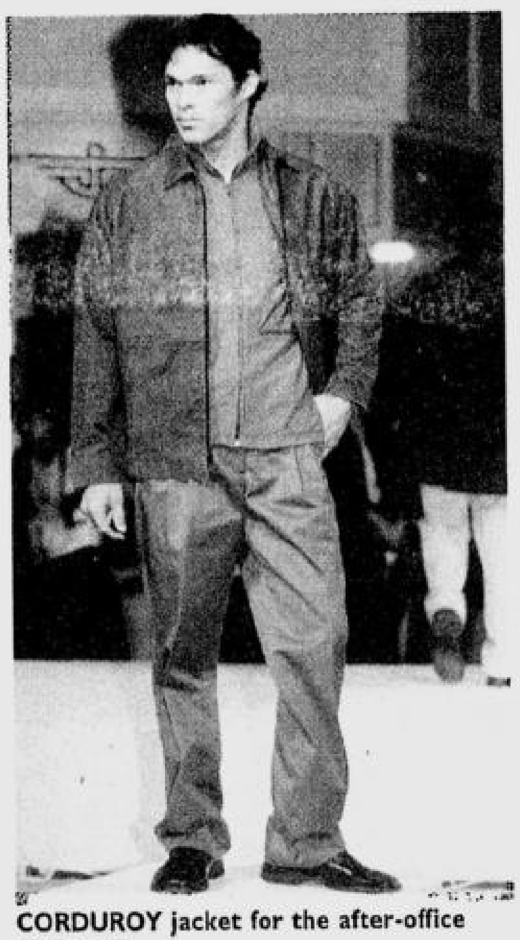


LEATHER coat and cap transform the snappy corporate garb.

GO with a tie or the classic long-sleeve shirt and flat-front pants.



CLEAN suit with red long-sleeve shirt



CORDUROY jacket for the after-office night out

De-stress in a spa in cool Tagaytay

WHEN all those deadlines and performance targets are wearing you down, or when you are feeling rundown and at your wit's end, then it is time to de-stress. What better place to make it happen than in a real tropical spa in cool Tagaytay?

Nurture Spa, a short one-hour drive from Makati, offers an accessible, proximate and brief getaway from a stressed urban living with a total relaxation program: Stressbuster, which integrates body, mind, spirit and nature.

Because you deserve it, treat yourself to a two-day/two-night stressbuster weekend of activities:

For the body: healthy gourmet eating, exercises and aromatic massage.

For the mind: Stress-Free Living workshop sessions.

For the spirit: meditation and other relaxation techniques in tranquil meditation nooks surrounded by nature.

For the senses: nature walk and pineapple picking, plus serene accommodations in authentic Ifugao native huts with modern amenities.

The first Stressbuster Weekend is ongoing until Sept. 1. Conducted by International Customer Management Systems (ICMS), a professional training and consultancy group, participants are assured of a rejuvenating and fun-filled weekend that will help you achieve a long-term stress-free living.

Call 813-6954.

Value-for-money shopping tips

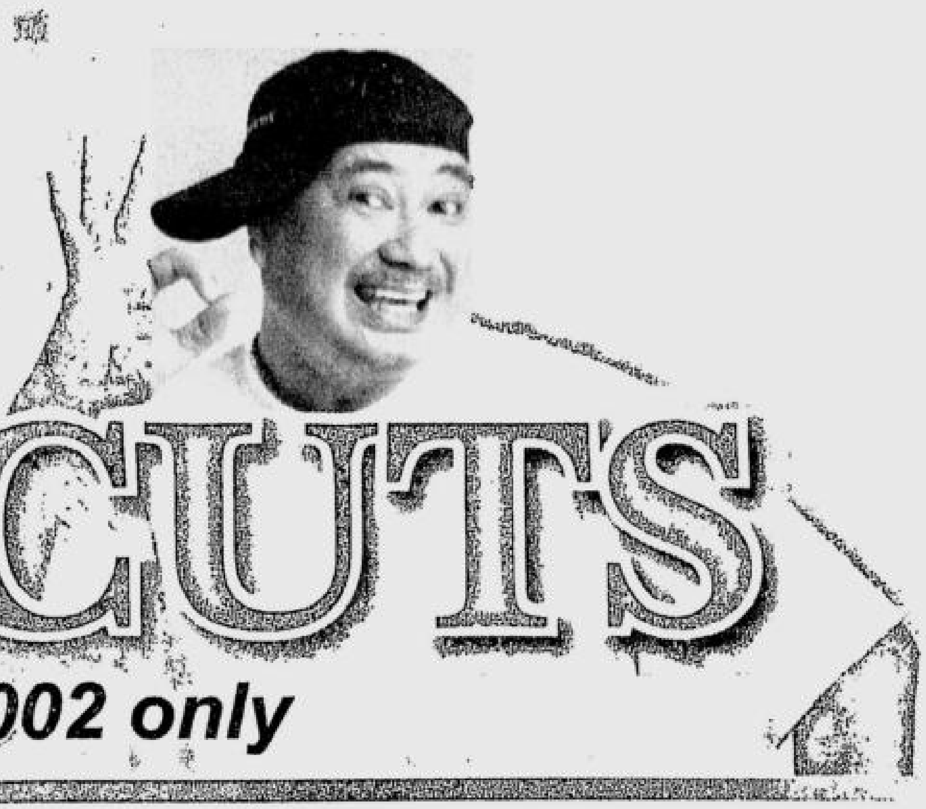
'TIS the season to shop for your holiday needs as stores clear their old inventory. And while you're at it, enjoy the dining, amusement and cinema treats when you shop during the mall-wide sale at the Festival Supermall in Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang on Sept. 13-15.

At the Festival Cinemas, patrons of the Theater Bar at C-Square will get two solo-size popcorn for free when they purchase four cinema tickets and two 16-oz Pepsi Lemon. Chef's Avenue habitues will get a complimentary Cinema Gold ticket, valid within one week from ticket issuance, for every P600 worth of food purchase at any of its restaurants. Kids will also have a fun-filled weekend at the Amusement Center as all rides at Pixie Forest and X-Site cost only P20. No minimum purchase is required.

As you shop during these hard times, Festival Supermall offers these value-for-money tips as you go around the mall during its weekend sale:

- It pays to plan your shopping. List down all the items that you really need to avoid impulse-buying. And it's always best to buy items after season.
- Carefully study bargain offers based on purchases of additional merchandise such as "buy one, take one free" or "free gift with purchase." It's not a deal when you have no need for the items involved.
- Make it a habit to buy gifts for friends or relatives all year round. Label them so you won't forget whom you bought them for.
- Buy in bulk quantities only if you think that you will use them all.
- Inspect the items, especially clothes, before you buy them. It will cost you more to go back to the store for items that are defective.
- One-stop shops offer better savings because they provide all your needs. At Festival Supermall, the largest shopping, dining and entertainment mall complex in southern Metro Manila, you have a wider choice of merchandise and services at over 400 specialty stores and restaurants under one roof.

XXCELLENT PRICE CUTS



August 30 - September 15, 2002 only

Item	Weight	Price
Fresh Pak Chicken Gizzard	(370-380g)	P49.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Chicken Liver	(420-430g)	P49.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Pork Chop Skin On	(380-390g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Pork Chop Skin Off	(380-390g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Pork Cutlet Skin On	(265-275g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Pork Cutlet Skin Off	(280-290g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Pork Leg Steak	(285-295g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Pork Menudo	(355-365g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Pork Liempo	(355-365g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Pork Minced	(370-380g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Pork Cubes	(355-365g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Round Bone Chops	(360-370g)	P59.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Shoulder Chops	(315-325g)	P69.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Breakfast Steak	(315-325g)	P69.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Oyster Blade	(315-325g)	P69.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Blade Steak	(315-325g)	P69.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Stewing Steak	(315-325g)	P69.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Diced Beef	(315-325g)	P69.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Minced Beef	(315-325g)	P69.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Chicken Minced	(395-400g)	P69.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Chicken Casserole	(550-560g)	P69.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Chicken Drumstick	(570-580g)	P79.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Chicken Breast	(590-600g)	P79.99 /PACK
Fresh Pak Chicken Wings	(680-690g)	P89.99 /PACK

your X-XL neighborhood store!

XXcellent talaga!
Xpresslane

Xpresslane by Rustan SUPERMARKET

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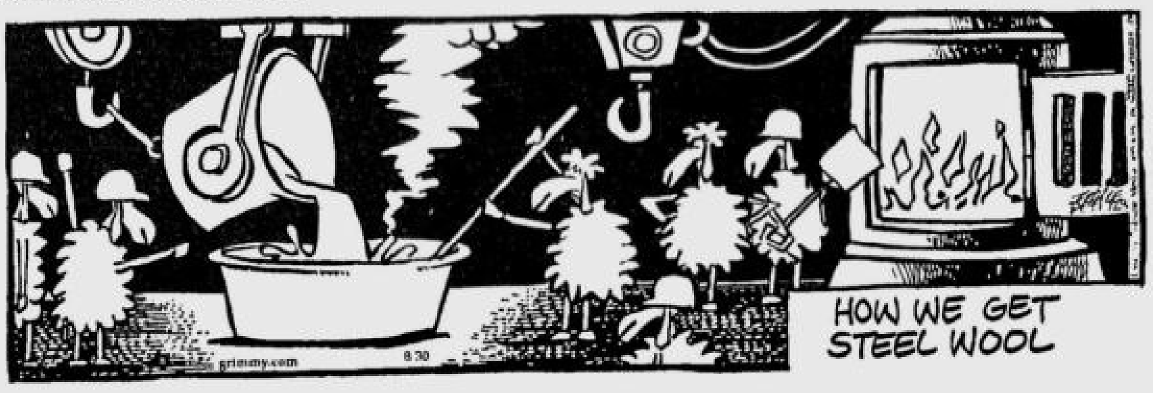
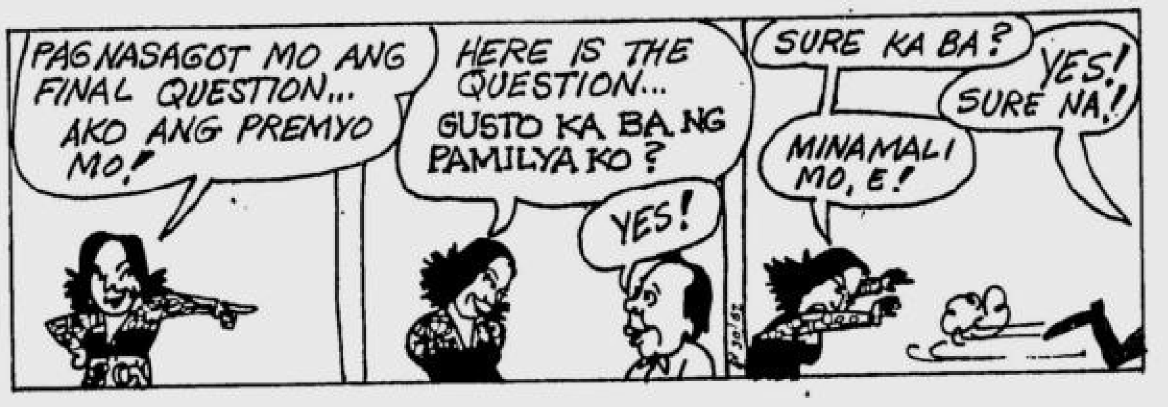
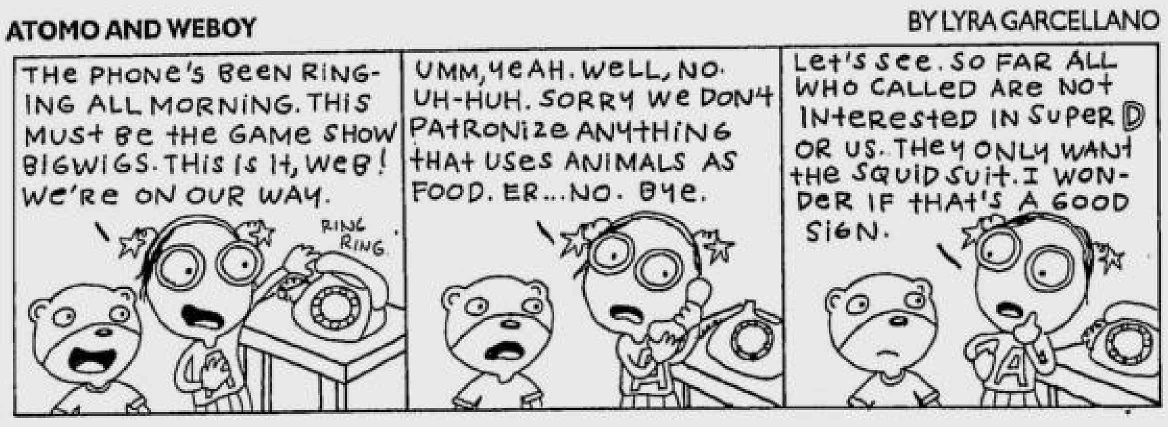
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS


HOW WE GET STEEL WOOL
grimmy.com
8 30

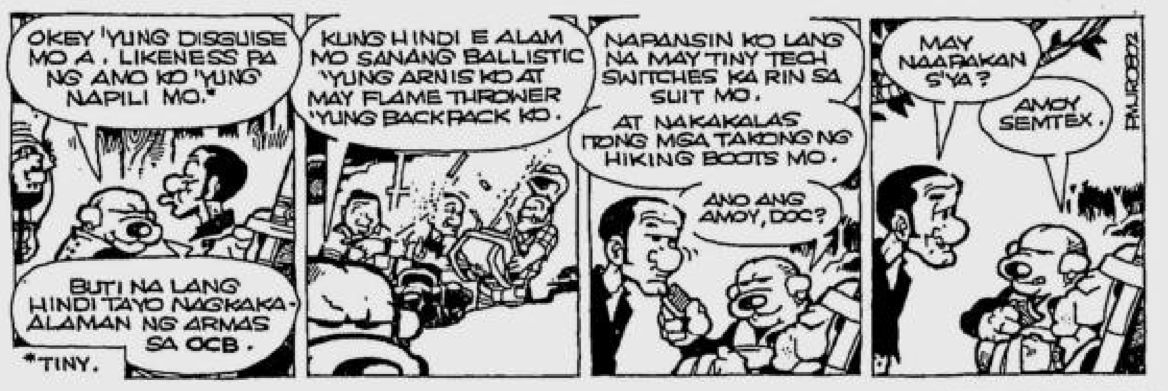
A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA


PAG NASAGOT MO ANG FINAL QUESTION... AKO ANG PREMYO MO!
HERE IS THE QUESTION... GUSTO KA BA NG PAMILYA KO?
YES!
SURE KA BA?
YES! SURE NA!
MINAMALI MO, E!

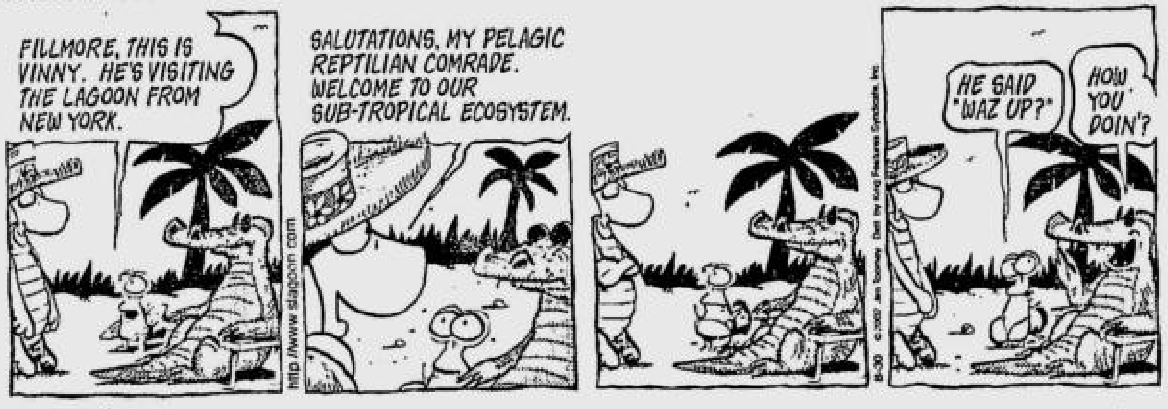
ATOMO AND WEBOY BY LYRA GARCELLANO


THE PHONE'S BEEN RINGING ALL MORNING. THIS MUST BE THE GAME SHOW BIGWIGS. THIS IS IT, WEB! WE'RE ON OUR WAY.
RING RING
UMM, YEAH. WELL, NO. UH-HUH. SORRY WE DON'T PATRONIZE ANYTHING THAT USES ANIMALS AS FOOD. ER...NO. BYE.
LET'S SEE. SO FAR ALL WHO CALLED ARE NOT INTERESTED IN SUPER D OR US. THEY ONLY WANT THE SQUID SUIT. I WONDER IF THAT'S A GOOD SIGN.

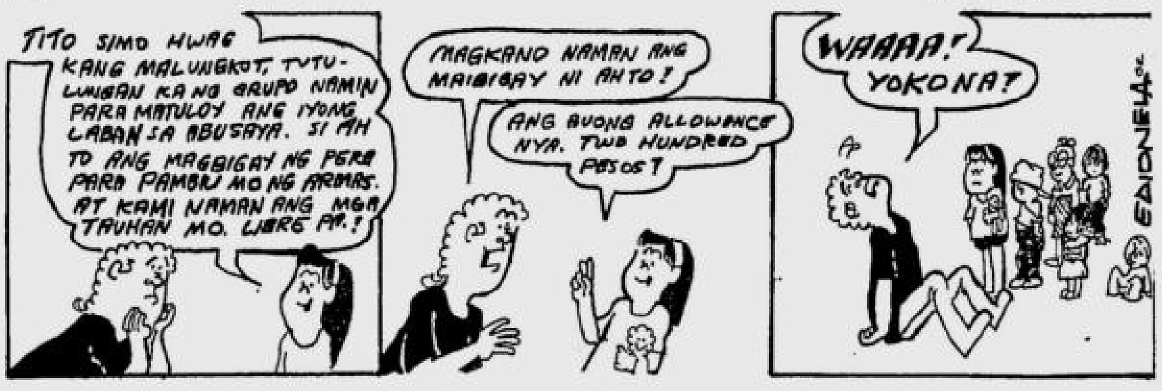
PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR


OKEY 'YUNG DISGUISE MO A. LIKENESS PA NG ANO KO 'YUNG NAPILI MO.*
BUTI NA LANG HINDI TAYO NAGKAKA-ALAMAN NG ARMAS SA OCB.
*TINY.
KUNG HINDI E ALAM MO SANANG BALLISTIC 'YUNG ARNIS KO AT MAY FLAME THROWER 'YUNG BACKPACK KO.
NAPANSIN KO LANG NA MAY TINY TECH SWITCHES KA RIN SA SUIT MO. AT NAKAKALAS 'TONG MGA TAKONG NG HIKING BOOTS MO.
ANO ANG AMOY, DOC?
MAY NAAPAKAN S'YA?
AMOY SEMTEX.

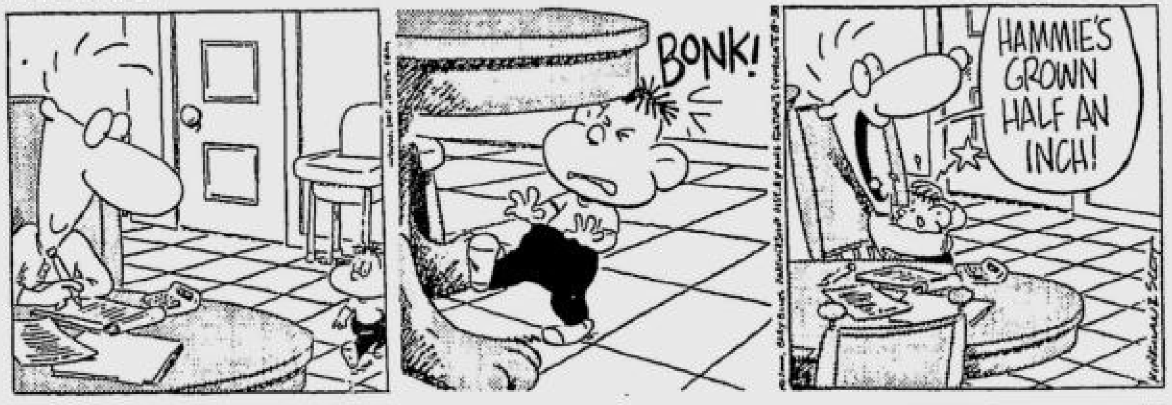
SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY


FILLMORE, THIS IS VINNY. HE'S VISITING THE LAGOON FROM NEW YORK.
http://www.slagoon.com
SALUTATIONS, MY PELAGIC REPTILIAN COMRADE. WELCOME TO OUR SUB-TROPICAL ECOSYSTEM.
HE SAID "WAZ UP?"
HOW YOU DOIN'?

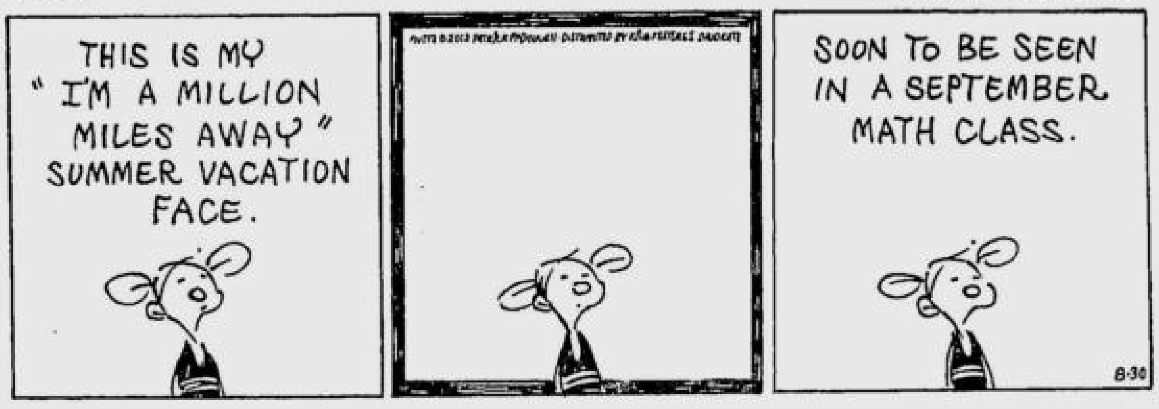
SIMO BY EDGAR DIONELA


TITO SIMO HWAG KANG MALUNGKOT, TUTULUNGAN KA NG GRUPO NAMIN PARA MATULOY ANG IYONG LABAN SA ABUSAYA. SI AH TO ANG MAGBIBIGAY NG PERA PARA PAMBILI MO NG ARMAS. AT KAMI NAMAN ANG MGA TAUHAN MO. LIBRE PA.!
MAGKANO NAMAN ANG MAIBIBAY NI AHTO!
ANG BUONG ALLOWANCE NYA. TWO HUNDRED PESOS?
WAAAA! YOKO NA?
EDIONELA

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT


BONK!
HAMMIE'S GROWN HALF AN INCH!

MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL


THIS IS MY "I'M A MILLION MILES AWAY" SUMMER VACATION FACE.
SOON TO BE SEEN IN A SEPTEMBER MATH CLASS.
8-30

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kitty Wells, R. Crumb, Elizabeth Ashley, Lisa Ling, Cameron Diaz

Happy Birthday: You should be able to achieve both recognition and financial security. Your confidence level should be up, ensuring your ability to dazzle others with your attributes and creative ability. You will be shrewd when it comes to business and able to cut deals that will be in your best interest. Your numbers are 4, 19, 28, 33, 41, 47

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Expect to get something interesting in the mail. You will probably get a lot of phone calls today. Listen to the advice you get from someone you respect and trust.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You should be able to make some changes regarding your future direction. Focus on your professional or financial goals. Opportunities to make gains are apparent. Don't hold yourself back.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Use actions instead of words if you have trouble expressing yourself. If someone has impressed you, do something nice in return. If you share your original ideas, you will get them off the ground.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You should be dealing with money matters and any issues that arise at home. Communications can solve many problems if you are open and to the point.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Get involved in activities that will bring you in contact with interesting individuals. You can gain support if you use your charm to persuade others to follow your ideas and beliefs. Relationships or partnerships can be formulated today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It will be difficult to complete your work. Consider the changes you can make to enhance yourself. Career options will be opening up soon and you want to be at your best when they do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You'll be feeling great about your abilities and your future. Educational pursuits or anything that will bring you greater knowledge will be a draw. Changes concerning friendships and social activities will be beneficial.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Put your time and effort into investments, fixing up your home and getting involved in groups that offer you support. Your secretive nature will be intriguing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotional matters can be resolved if you are loving, affectionate and generous. Your concern with environmental issues will lead you to new groups and acquaintances. Socializing should be on your agenda.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Work should be your prime concern today. If you don't have a job, it is a good time to look for one or to volunteer for a worthy cause. Don't let yourself get run down.

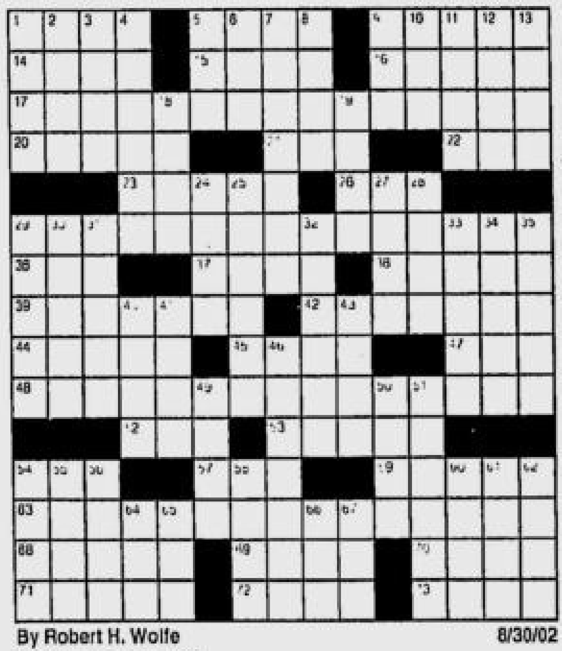
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your creative approach to life and everything you do will attract a lot of attention. Don't be afraid to show your work or talk about your ideas. You will be well received.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Steer clear of debates, arguments, disputes or any other kind of negative encounter at home today. Do not try to deal with older relatives.

Birthday Baby: You were born with great wisdom and you want to put it to good use right away. You will be versatile, communicative and interested in just about everything.

DAILY CROSSWORD

IMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY

8/30/02

ACROSS
1 Enunciation problem
5 Whisker
9 Fashion
14 At some prior time
15 Press for
16 Don
17 Start of a quip
20 1924 Ferber novel
21 Actress Claire
22 "__ Miniver"
23 Count on
26 Trifle (with)
29 Part 2 of quip
36 Harvest goddess
37 Younger Saarinen
38 Bargain model: pref.
39 Like a liberated woman?
42 Elevated region
44 Ring-shaped roll
45 Vocal inflection
47 Expected to arrive
48 Part 3 of quip
52 Kyushu volcano
53 Contradict
54 Pointed tool
57 __ chi ch'uan
59 Treble sign
63 End of quip
68 Involving punishment
69 Meeting place for fabric
70 Little woofs
71 Remains behind
72 Work units
73 Phoenix five

DOWN
1 Clark's love
2 Dope or skinny
3 [illegible] cover
4 [illegible]
5 Buzz
6 Parseghian of football
7 Fire starter
8 Dear head?
9 Healthy retreat
10 Embrace
11 Molecule part
12 Impoverished
13 Ceases
18 Fiend
19 Glut
24 Island guitars, briefly
25 Takes care of
27 Hershiser of baseball
28 Org. founded in 1858
29 College of the Southwest city
30 Ms. Winfrey
31 Employment
32 Spring unexpectedly
33 1953 John Wayne movie
34 Provide with a trail
35 Sensory organs
40 Spartan queen
41 Wallach and Whitney
43 Banana wrapper?
46 Satellite, e.g.
49 Plebiscite
50 Exhale audibly
51 Misleading attractions
54 Little snakes
55 Sharpen
56 Olin or Horne
58 Church part
60 Island festivity
61 Cable channel
62 Actor Parker
64 Kyser or Medford
65 '02 British Open winner
66 Crone
67 Printer's measures

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

B	A	S	S	■	A	M	O	S	■	T	H	I	N	E
E	S	P	N	■	D	I	V	A	■	O	A	T	E	N
E	T	U	I	■	A	L	A	I	■	K	N	E	A	D
T	I	N	P	A	N	A	L	L	E	Y	■	M	R	S
■	■	■	■	■	D	O	N	■	F	R	O	M	■	■
P	E	S	T	O	■	O	L	I	O	■	I	D	A	S
A	T	T	I	L	A	■	I	S	T	■	C	O	L	T
C	A	R	E	F	R	E	E	H	I	G	H	W	A	Y
E	G	O	S	■	I	N	G	■	C	U	E	S	I	N
D	E	M	I	■	S	N	E	E	■	A	L	E	N	E
■	■	■	N	A	T	O	■	U	S	N	■	■	■	■
S	H	A	■	T	O	B	A	C	C	O	R	O	A	D
L	I	M	B	O	■	L	I	L	A	■	I	D	L	E
E	V	I	A	N	■	E	N	I	D	■	N	O	O	N
W	E	D	G	E	■	S	U	D	S	■	G	R	E	Y

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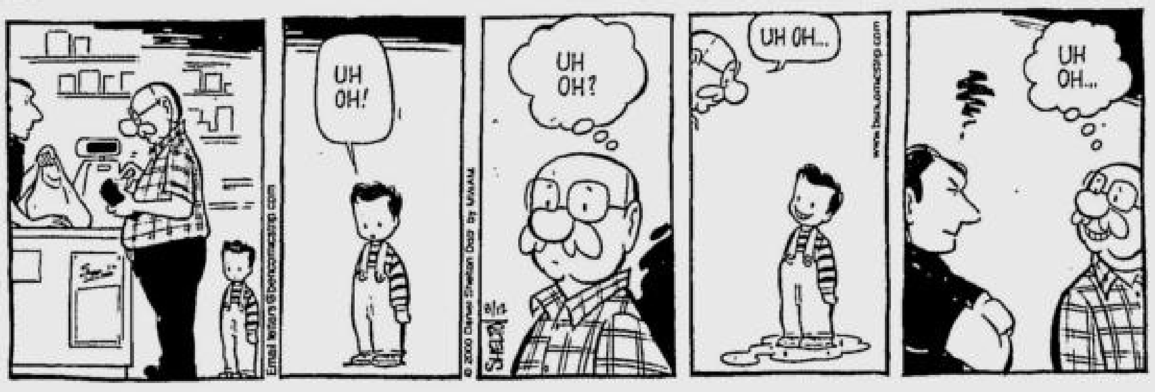
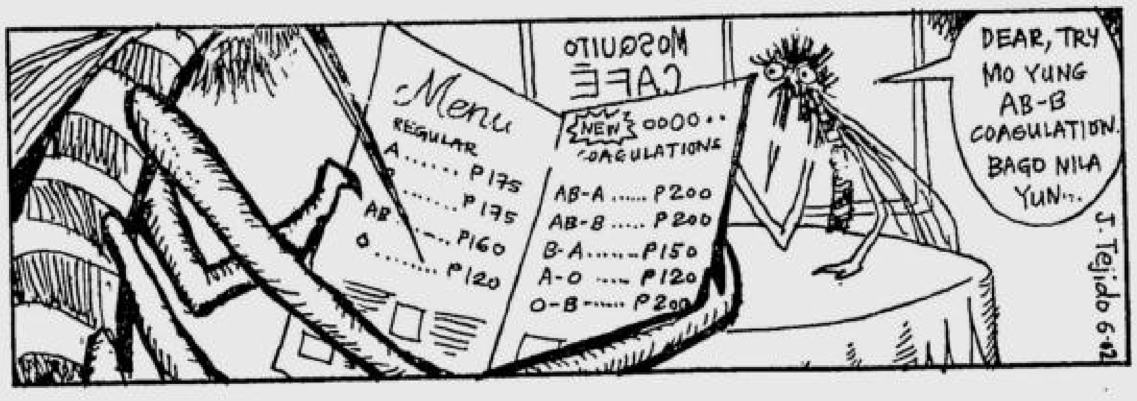
8/30/02

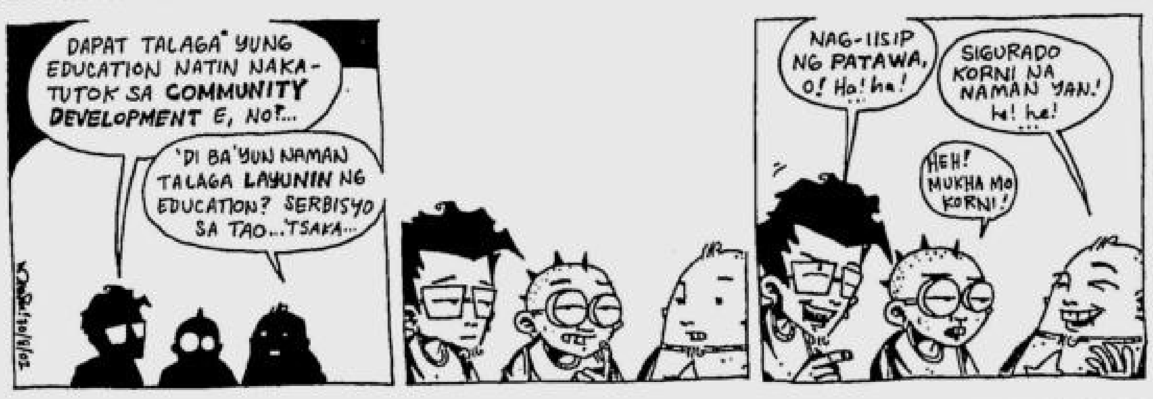
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON


UH OH!
UH OH?
UH OH...
UH OH...

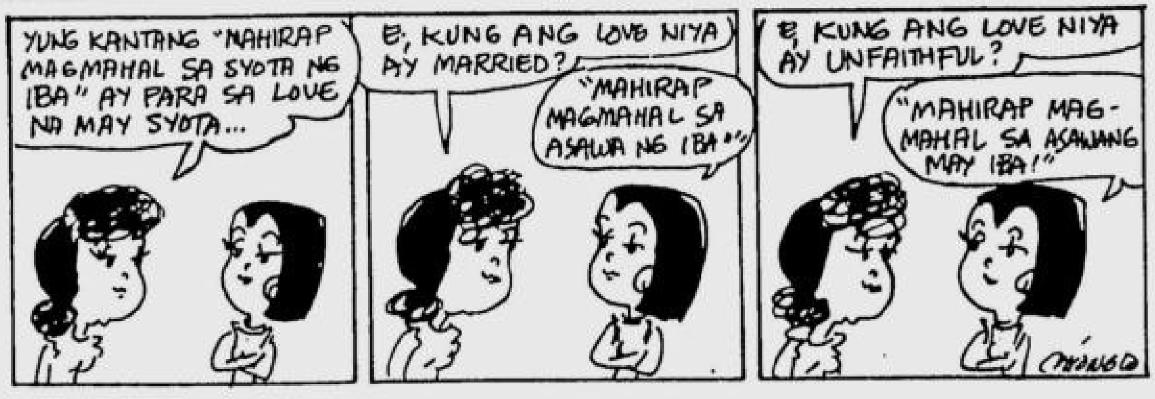
MIKROKOSMOS BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


MOSQUITO CAFE
Menu
REGULAR
A P175
...... P175
AB P160
O P120
NEW 0000.. COAGULATIONS
AB-A P200
AB-B P200
B-A P150
A-O P120
O-B P200
DEAR, TRY MO YUNG AB-B COAGULATION. BAGO NILA YUN..
J. Tejido 6-02

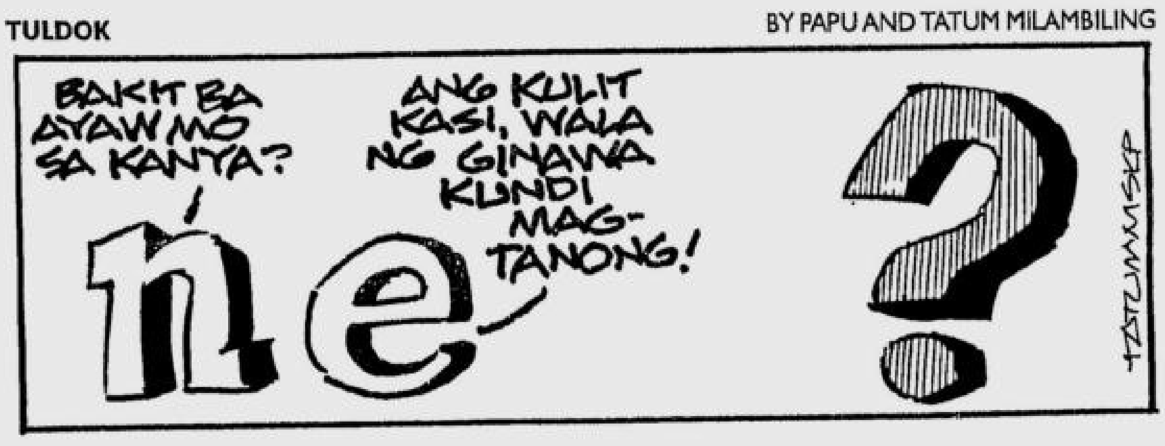
KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA


DAPAT TALAGA 'YUNG EDUCATION NATIN NAKATUTOK SA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT E, NO?...
'DI BA 'YUN NAMAN TALAGA LAYUNIN NG EDUCATION? SERBISYO SA TAO...TSAKA...
NAG-IISIP NG PATAWA, O! Ho! ha!
SIGURADO KORNI NA NAMAN YAN! he! he!
HEH! MUKHA MO KORNI!

LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


YUNG KANTANG "MAHIRAP MAGMAHAL SA SYOTA NG IBA" AY PARA SA LOVE NA MAY SYOTA...
E, KUNG ANG LOVE NIYA AY MARRIED?
"MAHIRAP MAGMAHAL SA ASAWA NG IBA"
E, KUNG ANG LOVE NIYA AY UNFAITHFUL?
"MAHIRAP MAGMAHAL SA ASAWANG MAY IBA!"
CHIONGLO

TULDOK BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


BAKIT BA AYAW MO SA KANYA?
ANG KULIT KASI, WALA NG GINAWA KUNDI MAGTANONG!
n
e
?

Before and during a 'viral break'

From page D1

lives and drama. And there it gets into lifetimes of vicarious experiences—from hilarity to sorrow, comedy to tragedy, tackiness to glamour, lust to holiness, and back to lust.

I plucked from the shelf Pulitzer Prize winner and New York Times columnist **Russell Baker**'s "Growing Up," his engaging autobio (not fiction, but his life's details were rich enough to be one) that brings you to the Depression years and the beginnings of a writer (since Baker felt he wasn't equipped enough to be a businessman or a laborer). Baker teaches one how to handle prose in a most lucid, simple yet enthralling manner—our model of unpretentious writing.

Then it was chuckling time with **Armistead Maupin**'s "More Tales of the City" and "Further Tales of the City," which connected me to a world I enjoy—San Francisco with its gay denizens and dysfunctional characters.

Still coughing badly, there was enough reason not to return to work. So I revisited **John Irving**'s "Hotel New Hampshire." To me, Irving is the best storyteller. From "Prayer for Owen Meany" to "Hotel New Hampshire," he is always my most reliable escape. Unlike Baker's, Maupin's and Irving's works are probably still available in bookstores. You should try them. It was the healthiest viral break I've had.

Marge flies

Before vice and virus downed me, I encountered two persistent women: **Marge Enriquez** and **Dita Sandico Ong**. They're in different fields. Marge, as you know, is Élan's editor: a journalist whose salvation (she believes) is in dancing; a vegetarian whose obsession is propagating the principles and values of—how do I summarize it?—spirituality. Dita is a fashion designer who's always batted for the use of local fiber.

Both are driven by their causes, pursuing them with a single-mindedness that leaves you no choice but to get out of their way and fall in step behind them.

Marge staged her annual cathartic performance, this time called "Wings of Soul," at Onstage Greenbelt. Honestly, Marge's dance concert was good, and people—not only the PRs—thought so. I overheard people leaving the theater saying how much they loved the text written by **Dadi Janki** (Marge recited as she "danced").

The theater was packed, with the audience seated on stage and Marge performing on a space in the seating section. I couldn't help but chuckle as I noted the attendance because I recalled what Marge told me earlier—now that she's no longer a Lifestyle subeditor, she wondered if people would go out of their way to support her performance. I told her there couldn't have been a better time to determine the ties she had built—or destroyed. Such is the fate of "powerful" media. (I've always believed that if you had no delusion of grandeur and illusion about your "clout," you wouldn't have surprises.)

But her "ties" were there—among them **Ben Chan,** who was among the sponsors and who brought along **Lucy Torres** and **Cathy Santamaria Escaño, Gilda Cordero Fernando, Bonjin Bolinao, Tessa Valdes, Leica Carpo, Berry Marfori, Annie Ringor, Joy Buensalido, Louie Ysmael, Gerry Lirio, Rosalinda Orosa, Ricky Toledo** and **Chito Vijandre.**

I've always chided her that what she couldn't live, she dances, meaning she loves to "dance" the values and principles she can hardly live by, or for that matter, all of us can hardly live by.

In this concert, she danced and recited inspiring lines on humility, "forgive and forget," earning trust, becoming light. See what I mean?

The concert—dance as prayer actually—was expertly directed by **Bart Guingona**.

It was only 45 minutes short yet impactful enough to leave you asking for more. Choreographer was **Douglas Nierras**, creative directors were **Antonio Salac Santos** and **Ernest Santiago**. The costumes by **Inno Sotto** were the best Marge has had so far.

As Marge executed balletic-yoga movements that were, by turns, fluid and light, forceful and furious, graceful and sensual, abrupt and jarring, she delivered a prose that the audience followed line by line, because it was insightful and provocative.

Take these: "Truth is always revealed at the right moment at the right place. It is for this reason that the simplest, most powerful statement of 'Truth is Humility'. Humility does not mean to waste your resources. Humility means to have the wisdom to understand the power of your resources and give accordingly. If you dislike, or have hatred or jealousy for anyone, you can't have humility (See, Marge knows that). Real humility, that is, humility as a power, is another word for self-respect."

In the final scene Marge "flew"—a special effect that hoisted her way above the audience, her knee-length skirt assuming the height and volume of a screen, prompting a doting **Rachy Cuna** to say, "At last, *nakalipad na rin si* Marge."

The video was cutting-edge. It is impressive that Marge and her artist-collaborators choose to experiment every year, taking innovation to greater heights. The production was almost flawless so that it shouldn't be a bad idea to bring this to a bigger, regional audience, say, to an Asean neighbor so that it can show the high caliber of the Filipino artist. Now, seriously.

The wrap

For her part, Dita opened a boutique on Wilson Street, Greenhills, showcasing her new banana fabric collection.

Since the '90s, Dita has been using banana fibers, adding to her line of native weaves and fibers such as *sinamay, ikat, abel Iloko*.

This time, she's given the banana fabric a sculpture-like quality, defining the lines and silhouette of the body. What we found impressive was how she turned it into a wrap—a very versatile piece of clothing that you can use as skirt, shawl, top or any way you want to make a style statement.

Dita's wrap of native fiber can be as supple or structural—our local version of an Issey Miyake. I believe it'll be a stylish addition to your wardrobe—it'll test how good you are in creating your own shape from a piece of fabric and mix-matching it with a basic clothing.

Dita has also produced accessories from banana fiber. Check out her pleated evening bag with a drawstring. It's different.

She taps Catanduanes weavers for this, the same way she's used those from her native Ilocos for her other fibers. More than using local craftsmen, Dita believes that by using native fibers, such as banana, she's supporting efforts to preserve the environment.

She's just been to Cagayan to meet silk weavers who, Dita said, were eager and able to supply our designers' demand for silk. That should be worth looking into.

"Design is more than design," she says. She believes it's a part of a whole sustainable system. Each piece of fiber supports the ecological system—from the planting of banana trees to the harvesting, stripping, sorting and weaving. So she's going beyond giving livelihood.

A Finnish fashion student, **Nora Nyman,** flew in early this year to learn more from Dita on the use of native fabric. The two women collaborated on the design and development of native fabric, with Nora modeling some of the designs.

Dita's Greenhills boutique should yield chic finds, including new natural bath lines, such as soaps that use fruit and vegetable base—cucumber, honey with oats, *dayap*.

It's interesting that while the retail market is swamped with cheap (smuggled) imports, T-shirts, jeans, skirts to choke you to death with their uniform boring designs (that's going global for you), Dita remains steadfast in exploring native fabrics, bold enough to continue developing a market segment that can tell a different buy when it sees one, daring enough to try the style potential of local weaves. The banana wrap is not only chic, it's also comfortable. That's a welcome change for a native weave.

Dita and **Patis Tesoro** will have a show on Sept. 12, at the 4/F Convention Hall of Robinsons Galleria. This is for the Organic Producers Trade Association of the Philippines. Called "Katutubong Habi," the collection will portray past, present and future organic lifestyles. That's a new twist.

FINNISH Nora Nyman models for friend Dita Sandico Ong.

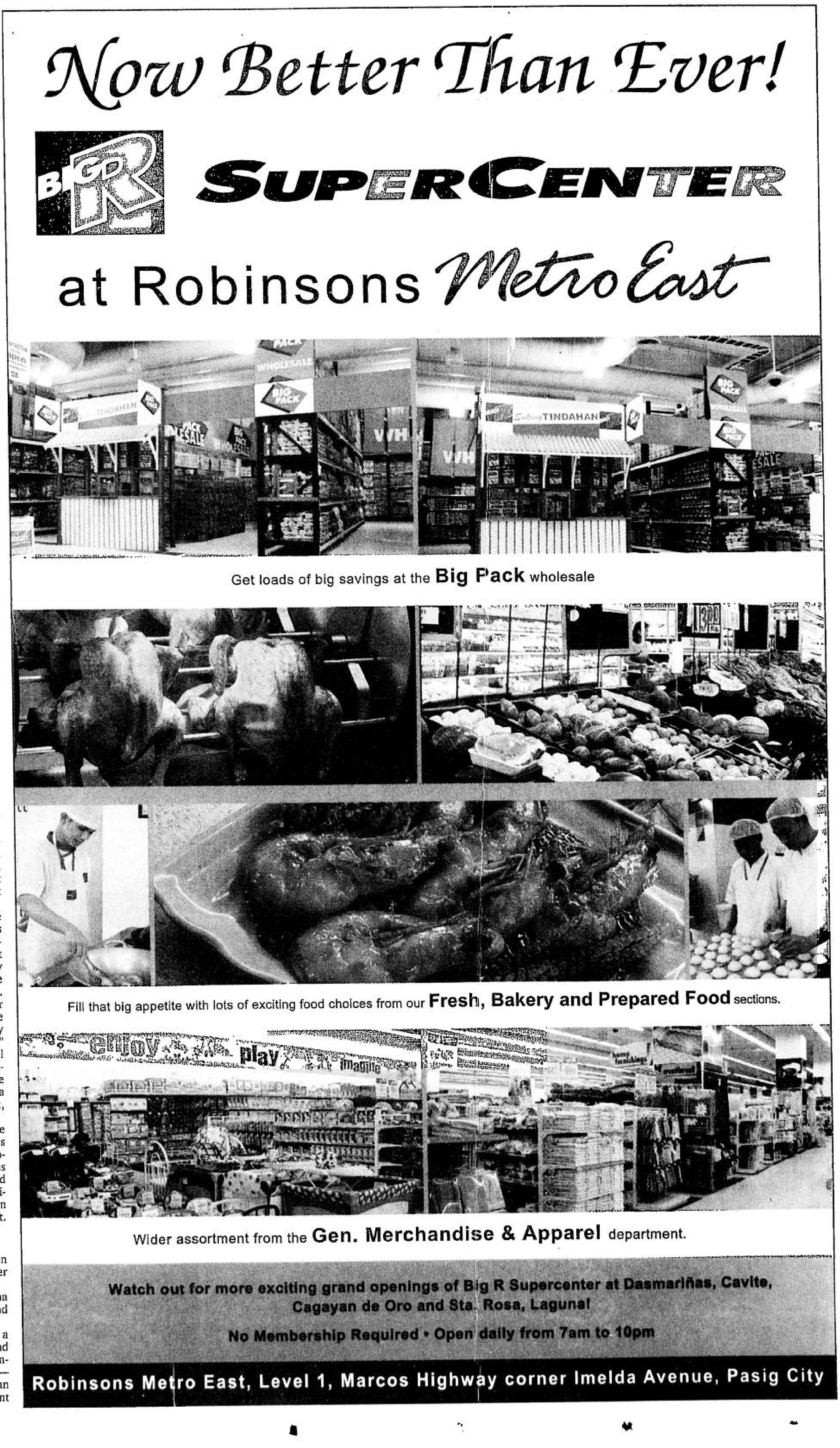
Comedy

I've heard and read all kinds of reviews about "Unfaithful," but I still wasn't prepared to hear a colleague's verdict after seeing the **Richard Gere-Diane Lane** movie: "It's a comedy." A what? "It's adultery from an 18-year-old's point of view," he said, meaning he found it maudlin, if not simplistic. Gere's "Do you love me?" line for Lane drew a guffaw from this cynical dude. And I thought adultery was supposed to be a thriller.

Speaking of comedy, **Rex Navarrete** is easily the hottest ticket in town. This San Francisco-based comedian has a show tonight at Dish, and our phones have been ringing off the hook with requests for more tickets. When **Ernie Lopez** had the idea of tapping Rex's act for Chalk's anniversary party, we didn't quite expect the demand for the stand-up comedian would be this huge.

It is big. A good cross-section of society wants to see it, from government officials to businessmen, socialites and students.

E-mail the author at tsanjuan@skyinet.net



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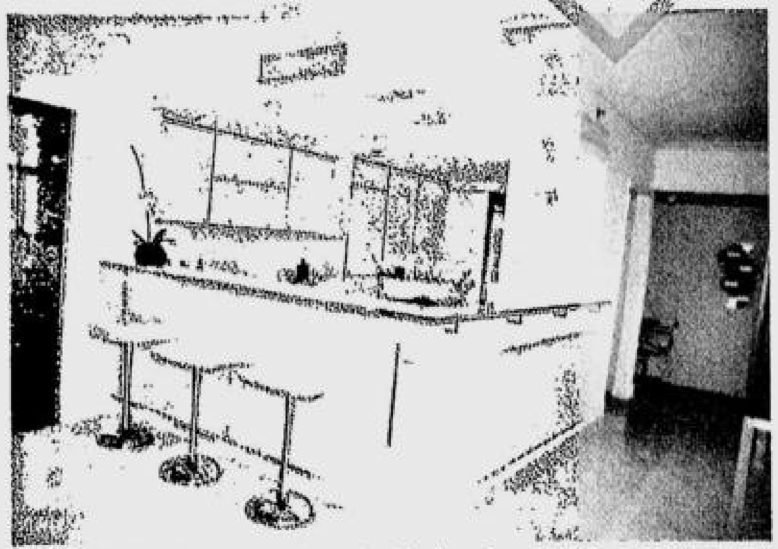

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Home of the familiar

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Ava Lugtu

FORMER banker Josephine Knox is in her "white phase," a look reflected in the ultramodern home she will soon share with Kuwait-based American husband Ervin Knox as soon as he retires for good in the Philippines.

HOME/ p.E6

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Orchid lovers brave floods to indulge passion

THE BLACK orchid wins the top awards.

Text by Tita V. Giron
Photos by Romy Homillada

NOT even ankle-deep floods could stop orchid-crazy collectors from going to the mid-year garden show of the Philippine Orchid Society (POS) at the Quezon City Memorial Circle. Despite the monsoon rains, they hied to the exhibit of blooming orchids, attended the afternoon garden lectures and demonstrations, and bargained at the garden *tiangge*.

Orchid fanciers held umbrellas over their heads and waded in floodwaters one rainy afternoon at the show. We have attended garden shows of the 56-year-old POS in the last 20 years or so and actually seen worse scenarios. We were there, for instance, at the height of a typhoon when the exhibits were held behind the walls of Fort Santiago in Intramuros. We also attended a show at the Manila Seedling Bank at the height of the coup against the Marcos administration.

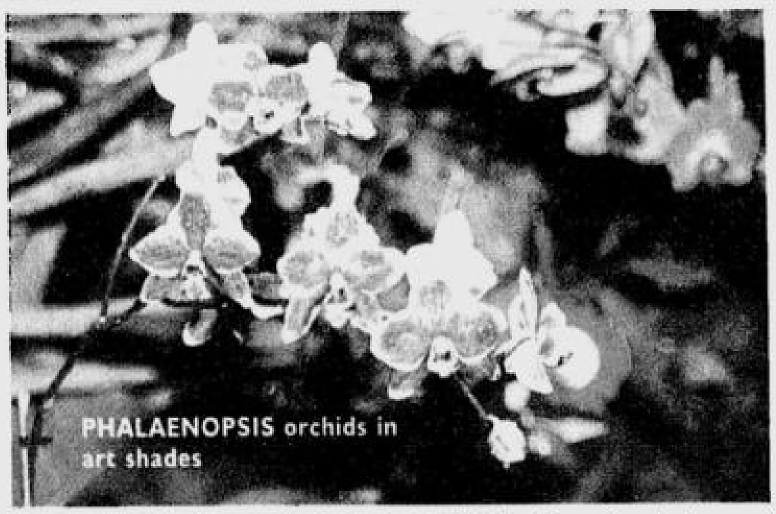
So it was really not unusual to have a *tiangge* in ankle-deep water. The pleasant surprise for us was the display of the elusive rare black orchid, *Trichoglottis philippinensis var. brachiata*. Although called "black" by hobbyists, its color is actually a deep dark red. Orchid breeders consider it a big challenge to cross-breed interesting native varieties with other species.

It was inevitable that the prolific brachiata, owned by Edward Francisco, won in the competition and run off with the coveted award, Best Orchid in Show.

Proud owners of award-winning orchids in the other categories were Minda Garcia for her vanda, Cora Purificacion for her dendrobium, Jun Golamco for vandaceous alliance, C.V. Lazaro for cattleya, Tess Baldonado for oncidium alliance, Jun Golamco for paphio-pedilum, and Mabel Chua for phalaenopsis.

The Best Booth Exhibit award went to Baby Spowart and team members Teresa Baldonado, Cynthia Isidro and Angie Salabit.

GUEST of honor Susan Roces poses beside the Dancing Lady orchids.



PHALAENOPSIS orchids in art shades

THE NATIVE ground orchid has white flowers.

It was not unusual to have a *tiangge* in ankle-deep water but the pleasant surprise was the elusive rare black orchid

Good buys at *tiangge*

Hobbyists gravitate to the *tiangge*, a regular feature of garden shows, for several reasons. It brings together plant sellers and growers from all over the country. The POS *tiangge* is the place to look for trendy garden plants, as well as old favorites. We picked up, for example, a pot of scented verbena, a standby in gardens long ago made memorable by its lemony and spicy fragrance. Other old favorites we spotted were *rosal* or gardenias, begonias, aglaonema, petunias, azaleas, and poliscias.

Curiosity plants are there, too, like the carnivorous pitcher plants, Venus fly trap and drosera. Puentespina Orchids sells potted carnivorous plants and shows how they can grow inside a glass bowl or terrarium. On display at the Puentespina booth is a huge aquarium that demonstrates landscaping inside a glass container.

P2/orchid show

Most of the stores at the *tiangge* carry all varieties of orchids. Unfortunately, they include newly gathered species from the forest. There are native ferns, as well as lipstick plants, ornamental ginger and lilies.

The *tiangge* is a one-stop shop where gardeners can also buy their supplies, enough to last until the next garden show. Fertilizers, pesticides, pots, tools, potting media and seeds are available. Also available are plastic pots in various sizes and shapes.

Free lectures

The orchid show ends Sept. 1. Interesting free lectures and an educational program of the POS are still being held. Jose Mari Lacandula will give a lecture on "Basic Techniques in Orchid Growing" this afternoon. Rolita Spowart will discuss "Designing Your Orchid Greenshouse" on Aug. 31, and Lilia Fernando will talk about"Guidelines in Orchid Conservation and CITES" on Sept. 1.

POS president Baby Spowart advises orchid collectors to join the orchid society. She says that, in addition to lectures and demonstration on orchid growing held during monthly meetings, POS members also go on field trips and garden visits. The organization has a quarterly magazine where ideas and know-hows are shared. Write to Unit 209, 2/F Delsa Mansion, 44 Scout Borromeo, South Triangle, QC or call 9294425 and 0917-8485468.

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Orchid show winners

TRICHLOGLOTTIS philippinensis var. brachiata or the mythical black orchid was named the Best Orchid in Show. It was exhibited by Edwin Francisco, who won a trophy and a P10,000 cash award. The plant, which is native to the Philippines, won for the Best of Other Genera and Best of Philippines species.

Other winners are Best Vanda sanderiana by Minda Garcia, Best Vandaceous Alliance by Jun Golamco, Best Dendrobium by Cora Purificacion, Best Cattleya by C.V. Lazaro, Best Phalaenopsis by Mable Chua, Best Oncidium Alliance by Tess Baldonado, and Best Paphiopedilum by Jun Golamco.

In the Exhibit Booth category, the group of Lazaro, Vic Chin Jr., Mable Chua, Olivia Sanchez, Linda Lim; Philbert Rhombaoa and Vangie Go got third and second places. First place, with a trophy and a P10,000-cash award, went to the group of Baby Spowart, Teresa Baldonado, Cynthia Mariano-Isidro and Angie Salabit.

With the theme "Orchids for Good Health," the show, with lecture-demonstrations on the various aspects of orchid culture and a commercial section, runs until Sept. 1 at the Commonwealth side of Quezon Memorial Circle in QC. Open from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, the exhibit and lecture-demonstrations charge a minimum fee. However, the commercial section is open free to the public.

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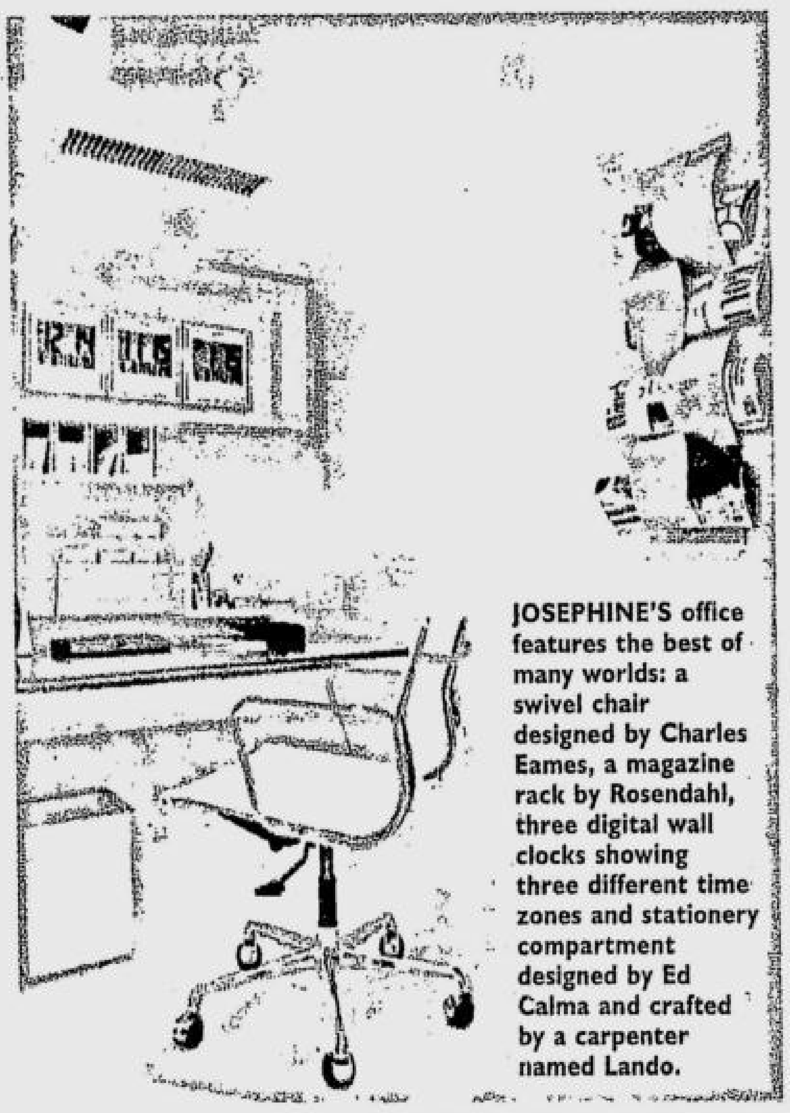
MODERN furniture pieces from B&B Italia get a dash of color from antique accent pieces from various parts of Asia. The furniture's sleek chrome legs add to the interior's modern feel.

Home of the familiar

From page E1

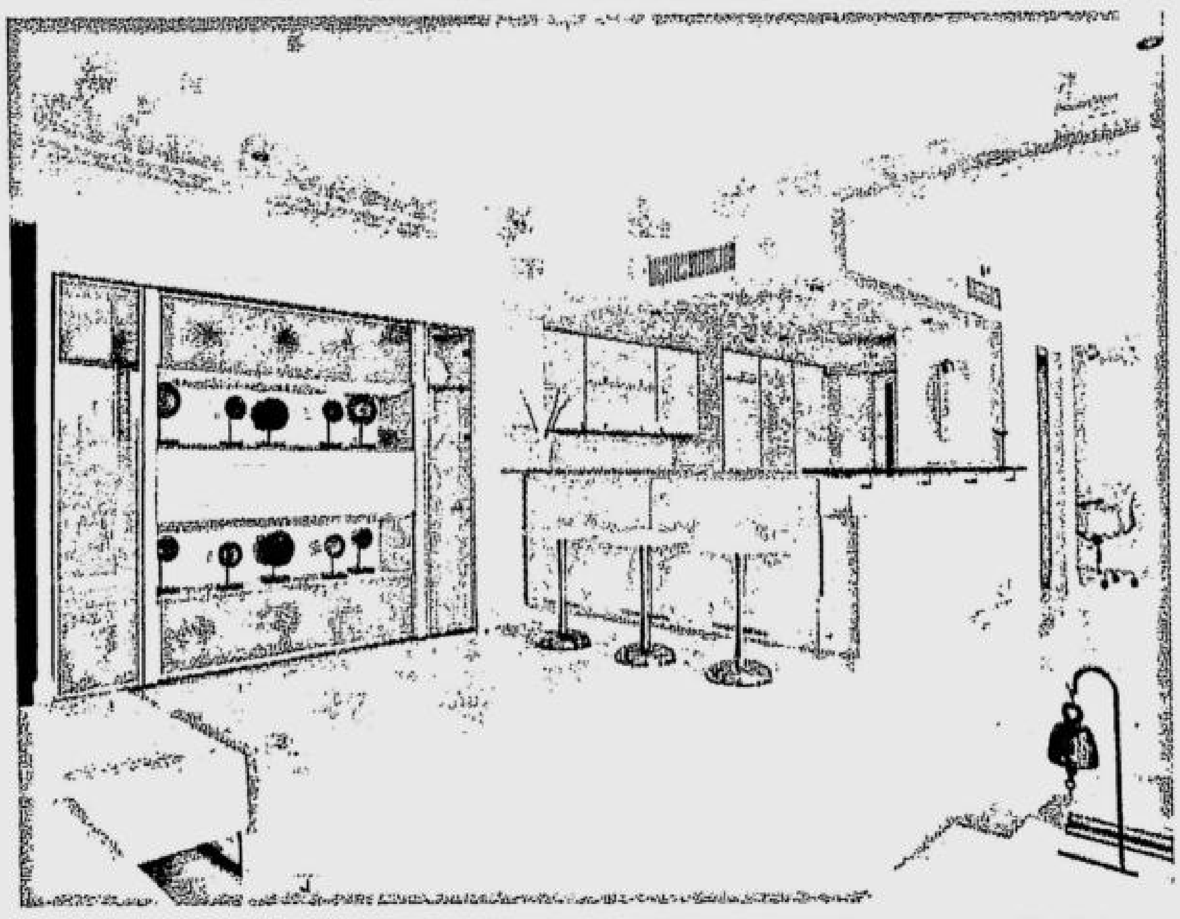
Josephine Knox's ultramodern house has three clocks to indicate the time in the three continents she holds dear

HOME/ p.E7

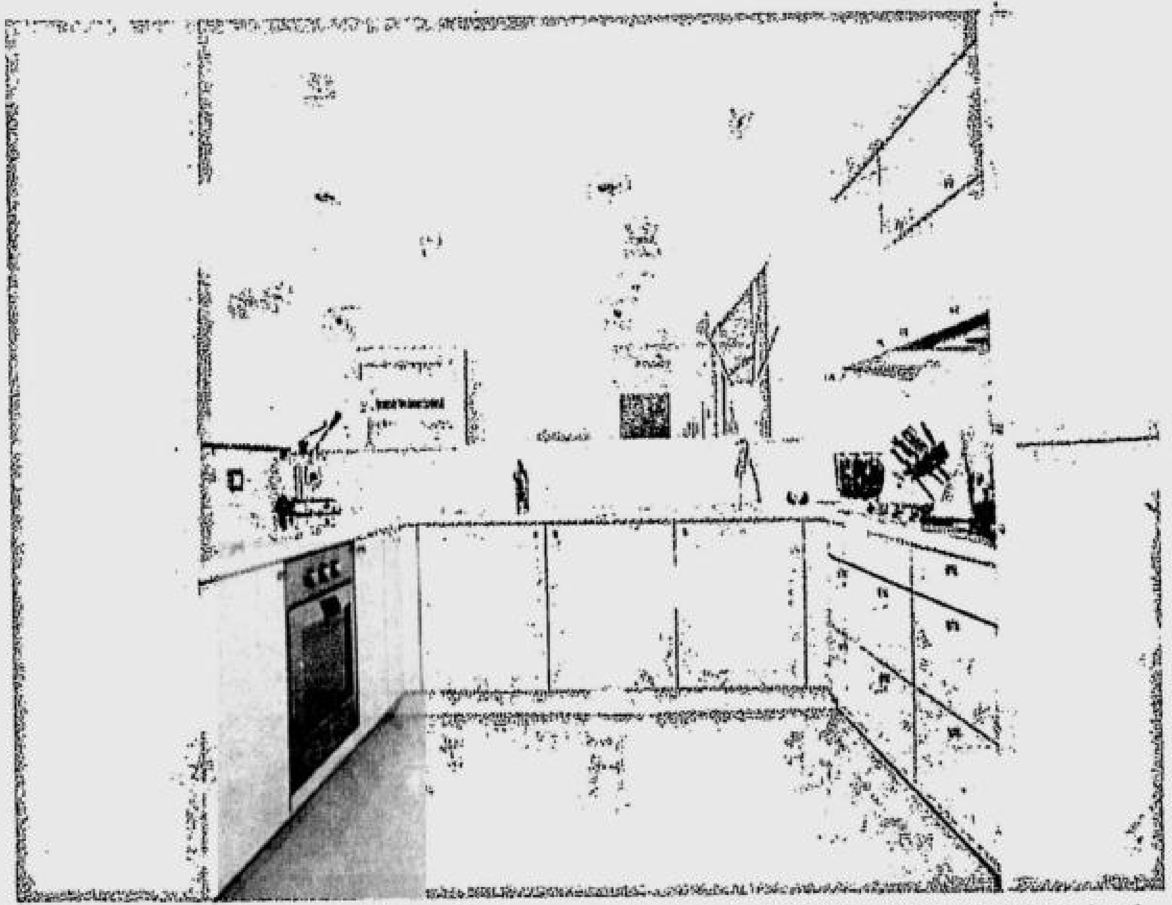


JOSEPHINE'S office features the best of many worlds: a swivel chair designed by Charles Eames, a magazine rack by Rosendahl, three digital wall clocks showing three different time zones and stationery compartment designed by Ed Calma and crafted by a carpenter named Lando.

B&B Italia dining table and Solo chairs are the focal point in the dining area. Accent pieces, from the prestigious to the unknown, complete the look.



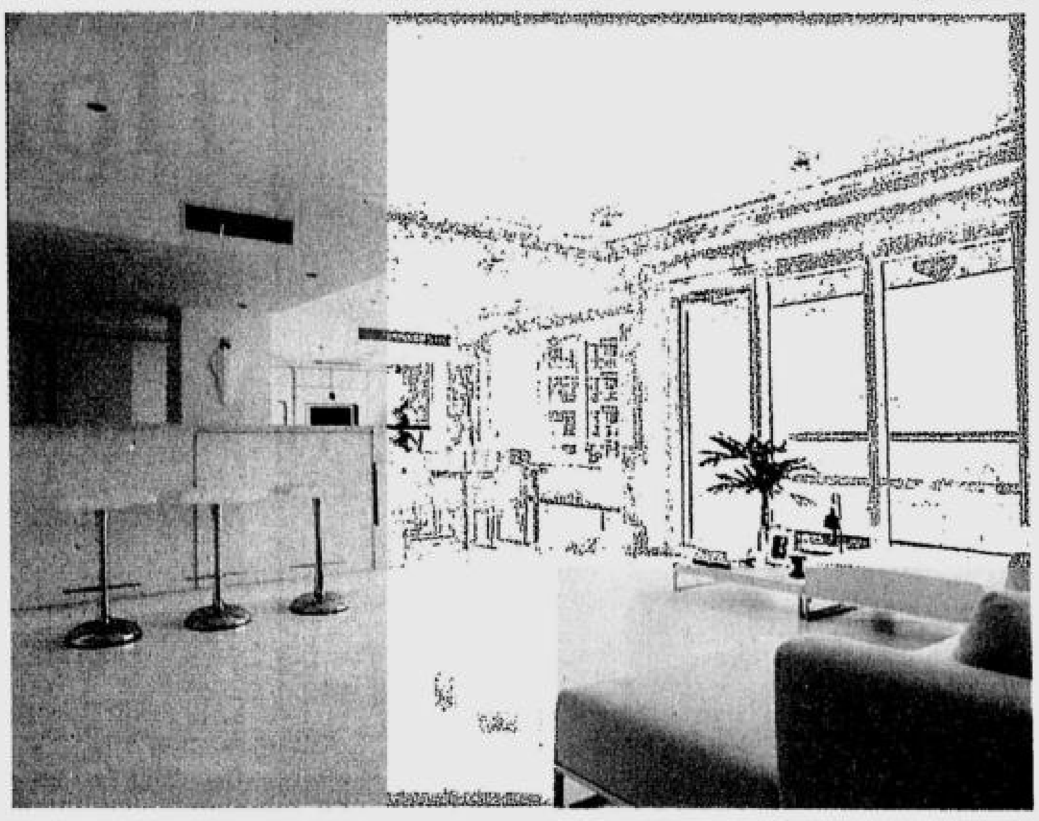
A VIEW of the bar and B&B Italia's display cabinet featuring Josephine's cherished Sukhothai earthenware



THE MAIN event, that is the kitchen, features a countertop, backsplash and double sink made of white Corian. Their matte finish sets off the off-white Poggenpohl cabinetry.

JOSEPHINE and Ervin Knox high above Metro Manila's din.

Her abode is divided between the 'soggiorno' and the 'notturno,' the day and night



WHITE and shiny chrome make for an ultramodern home.

Home of the familiar

From page E6

Designed by architect Ed Calma, the Rockwell unit has become a showcase for the couple's cherished furniture and accent pieces from almost three decades of international travel, eight years of which were spent in Italy where the pair of "corporate gypsies" had once been posted.

Josephine's inspiration for her new home's look came after leafing through a magazine featuring Calvin Klein's all-white apartment in New York. She was then a young student taking up graduate studies in history in the United States.

"Between my 10-year career as an international banker and 20 years of international postings as a bank executive's wife, I have either renovated or decorated 17 homes," she says. Actually, her most recent project with Calma isn't her Rockwell flat but a cliffside home in Punta Fuego—a work still in progress.

The Italian influence is very much evident, for instance, in their B&B Italia sofa wrapped in white fabric and supported by sleek chrome legs. A display cabinet also from B&B—its mix of frosted glass, steel and wood echoing the apartment's modern feel—features Josephine's collection of Sukhothai earthenware.

"They've become more special to me," she says of her earthenware. "The display stand was designed by architect Ed Tuttle, a good friend who also did the Amanpuri resort."

Rotation

Josephine plans to rotate items on display with other pieces in their collection. In the meantime, she only needs to pull several of the display cabinet's frosted glass panels to reveal different sets and combinations of Sukhothai pieces set on two other shelves.

A pair of upright glass cabinets, this time featuring white vases and bowls from Europe, sandwiches the main display cabinet. Calma had the wall in the foyer moved to achieve symmetry and accommodate one of the upright pieces. Both made-to-measure pieces also came from B&B.

At first blush, the mistress of the house may seem like a slave to high-end European brands. Upon closer scrutiny, however, Josephine's tastes range from the famous—think Philippe Starck-designed sculptural pieces—to the virtually unknown.

"I don't buy stuff because of their name," says the petite Josephine, who once had to hand-carry a pair of tall Italian glass vases to Manila from Hong Kong during one of her trips. The unbranded pieces ended up occupying a pair of lit niches by the dining room. "I buy them because I like them."

This philosophy is also reflected in her small office by the powder room. Since Josephine loves to write letters and personal notes to friends and family, she asked Calma to design a wall-mounted compartment to display her Italian stationery. She then hired a Filipino carpenter named Lando to execute the architect's design.

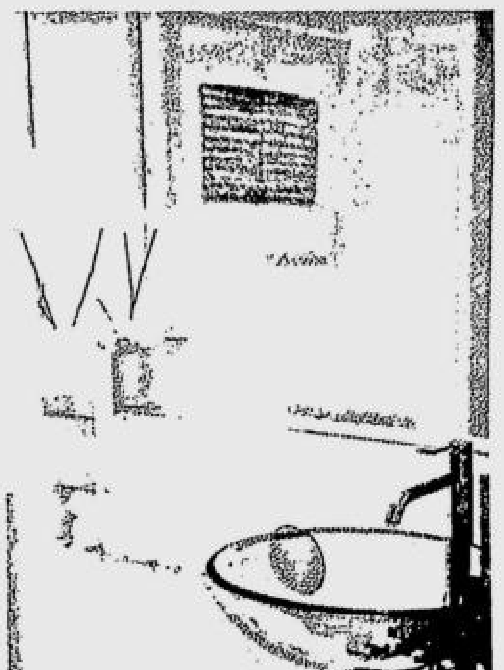
Since there was still enough wood left, she asked Lando to turn the excess material into a trash bin. The white container edged with shiny metal below the desk echoes the look of the stationery compartment above it.

Three clocks

A swivel chair designed by Charles Eames, a wall-mounted magazine rack by Rosendhal, and, for sentimental and practical reasons, three digital wall clocks complete the office set-up. Why three?

One wall clock shows the time in the Middle East, where Josephine's husband is based, one in Europe, where her best friend lives, and another one in the West Coast, where her parents reside.

HOME/ p.E8



EVEN the powder room, with a Pollux floating washbasin and an artwork by New York-based Joanne Mattera, reflects Josephine's cosmopolitan taste.

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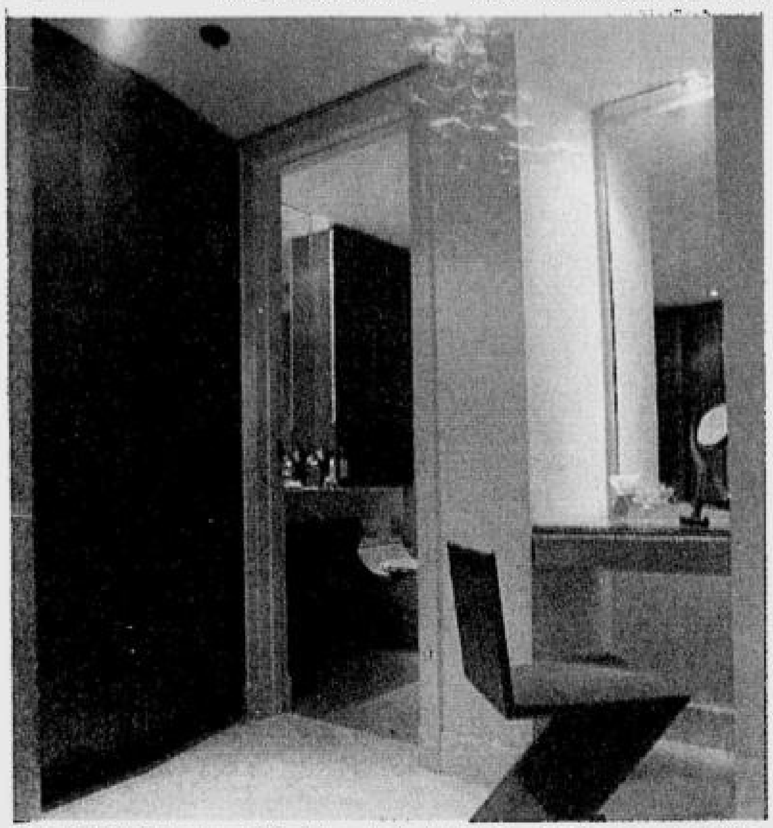
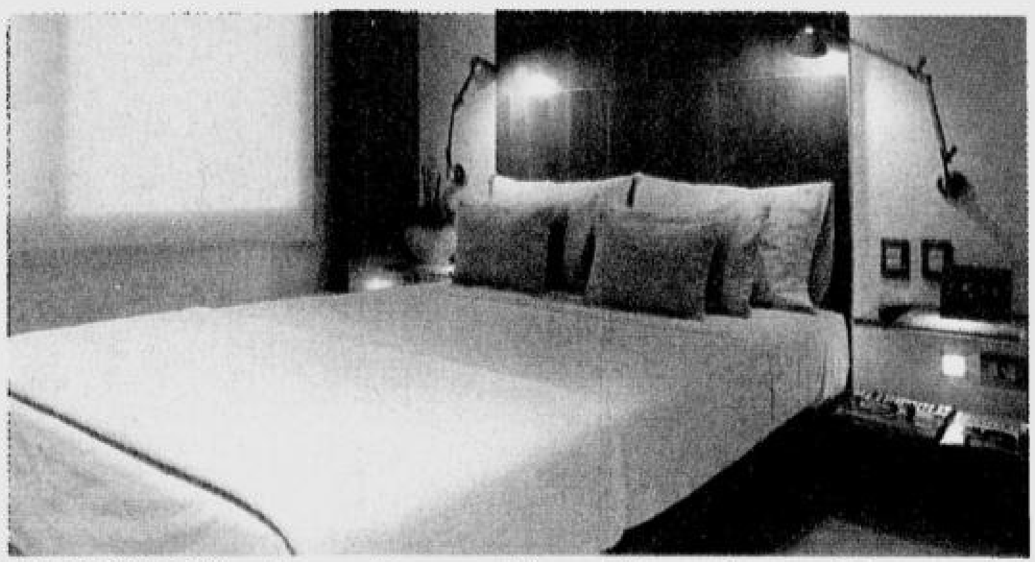
Home of the familiar



JOSEPHINE'S prized Zig-Zag chair is the inspiration behind the bedroom's warm look, which extends all the way to closet doors.



THE GUESTROOM evokes a *notturno* mood through the creative use of cherry wood doors and floating headboards with the trademark aluminum inserts. A pair of aluminum reading lamps, same as found in the master bedroom, is both sleek and functional.

From page E7

"When I buy things for the house," she adds, "I try as much as possible to buy pieces that are both aesthetically pleasing and useful."

Apart from providing form and function, the pieces represent happy and meaningful moments in their lives. "Home is about the familiar," she says, "a repository of enriching and stimulating experiences. After being overextended by life's daily demands, it feels great to come home to a calming environment."

Thus, the first objects that welcome Josephine as she enters the foyer is a pair of framed panoramic photos of Cambodia's Angkor Thom and Ta Prohm by photographer Jaro Poncar. She fell in love with the complex during a recent five-day visit with good friend Rajo Laurel. "I'm going to take Erv there as soon as we find time," she promises.

It's probably the history buff in Josephine. Other Asian influences spill over to the living room, their presence acting as a counterpoint to the modern setting, while adding a dash of color to the nearly all-white interior.

One of two B&B coffee tables features a 200-year-old Thai "merit" bell and a Burmese offertory tray made of bamboo and painted in red lacquer. The smaller coffee table, also painted in white with shiny chrome legs, features an antique angel figure from Thailand beside a shiny Bang & Olufsen CD player.

White and sand

White, incidentally, extends to the walls and floors of the flat's public areas. To achieve such a look, Calma had the parquet floor sanded, stained, painted and sanded again before sealing it with polyurethane. No need to resort to expensive floor cleaners and waxes, says Josephine. Soap and water will do nicely, thank you.

"I love the effect of white," she says. "It perks me up whenever I feel sleepy, and soothes my senses whenever I feel tired." Or she can always bask in the afterglow of Manila's famous sunset, with a bird's eye view of the city and its fabled river in the foreground.

If furniture and accent pieces are the stars of the show, the main event takes place in the kitchen. The open space has nothing but a built-in bar or buffet counter—depending on where one stands—which separates the kitchen from the rest of the flat's public areas.

With Ervin's knowledge in carpentry and Josephine's love for cooking and entertaining friends at home, both husband and wife conceived of the look via long-distance communication.

"After I faxed the floor plan to my husband in Kuwait," she says, "it came back with arrows instructing me to have the kitchen's walls knocked down."

She also had the maid's room opened up and converted into an entertainment area, and its corresponding restroom turned into a powder room. The couple's household help and driver return to their respective homes at the end of a working day.

Bar divider

The white wooden divider facing the living room doubles as a bar. Again, its three Cappellini barstools assume the flat's color scheme: rectangular seats wrapped in white leather and supported by long, shiny chrome legs.

The side facing the dining area doubles as a buffet table, and is set off by a glass-topped counter to distinguish it from the bar. Josephine and her architect didn't stop there. Concealed beneath the glass-topped counter are several lights that can illuminate and make it seem like a floating table when the overhead lights are dimmed at night.

"I'm lucky to have an architect like Ed," she says. "Aside from believing in the collaborative process with a client, he actually enjoys and practices the philosophy."

Their handiwork is again evident in the kitchen. Appliances are all paneled and hidden, save for the stainless steel grill, oven enclosure and ceramic burners.

To create a more seamless effect, Josephine chose a countertop, backsplash and double sink made of white Corian. Their matte finish sets off the shiny off-white Poggenpohl cabinetry. In keeping with the contemporary theme, she had the kitchen cabinets lined with shiny metal as well.

The same aluminum inserts are found in the unit's doors, headboards and closets. Josephine loves to refer to her "face-lifted" walnut doors as "Mondrianesque" sans the bold colors.

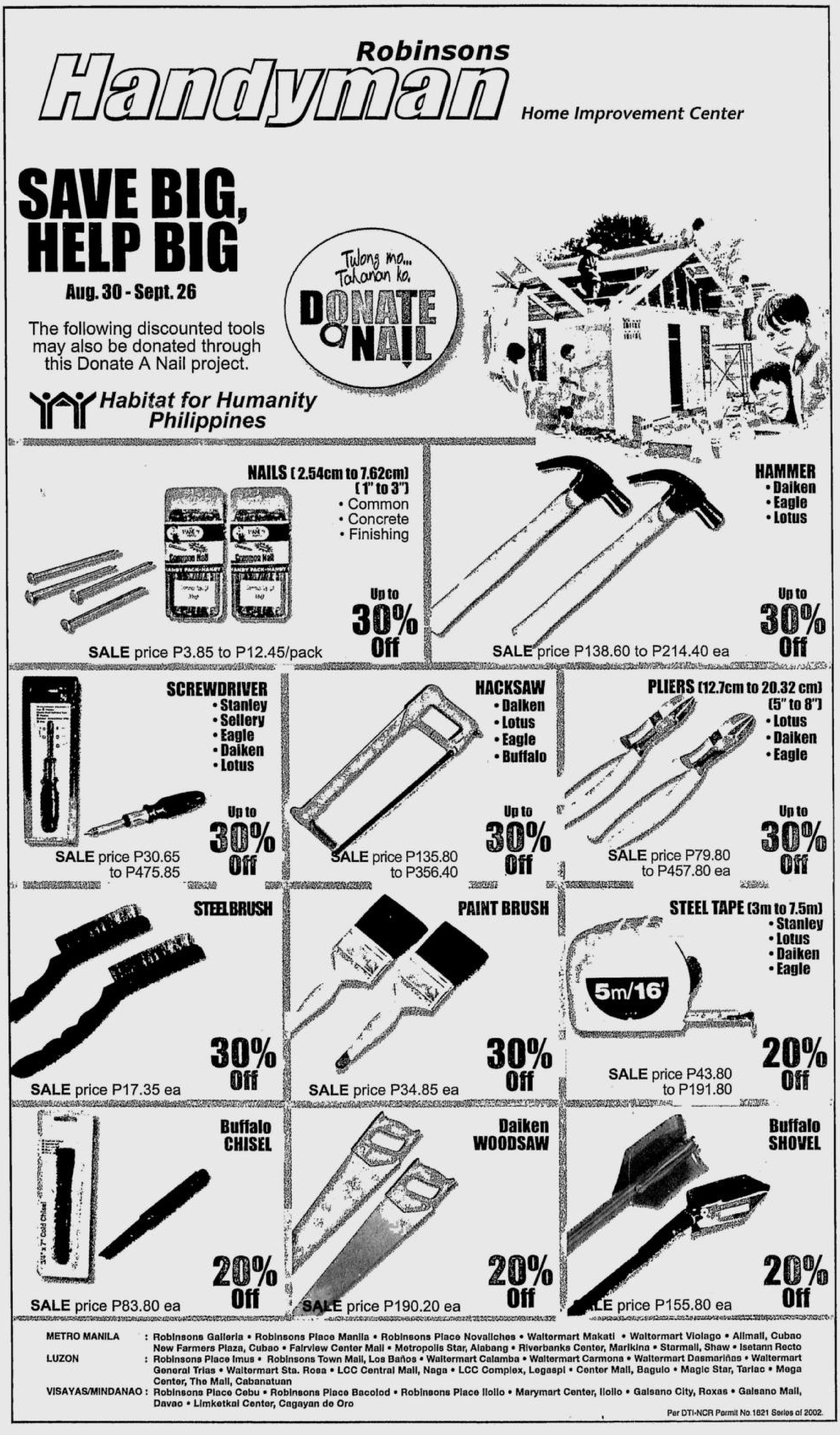
If the Knoxes' *soggiorno* or day area, as they say in Italy, is a rhapsody in white, their *notturno* or rest area is a soothing symphony in white and cherry wood as reflected in closets, dressers, side tables and furniture pieces found in the guestroom and master bedroom.

One of Josephine's prized possessions is her Zig-Zag wooden chair in cherry wood, which became the inspiration for such a color scheme. A pair of wall-mounted Tolomeo Micro aluminum reading lamps is mounted on the floating cherry wood headboards featured in both bedrooms.

"Erv and I have always believed that the guestroom should be as attractive and comfortable as the master bedroom," says Josephine. "Cherry wood imparts both areas with warmth." Beneath the veneer of modernity, the Knox home still remains an ideal place to sleep perchance dream.

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

ASIDE from drawing ideas from numerous interior design books, as displayed on one of the living room's coffee tables, Josephine clips pictures and magazine articles that catch her fancy. Everything is within easy reach, thanks to her so-called "paper doll" files.



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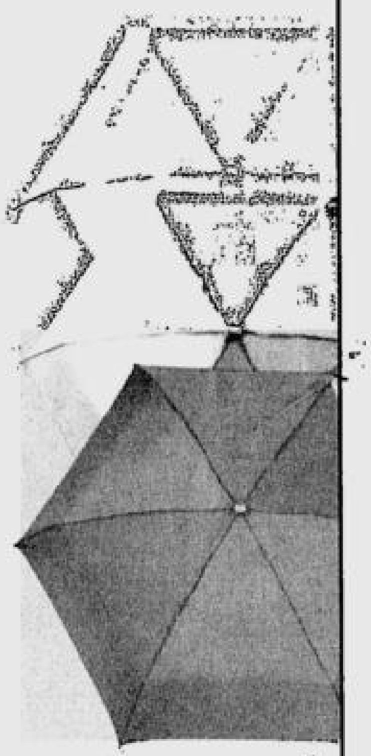

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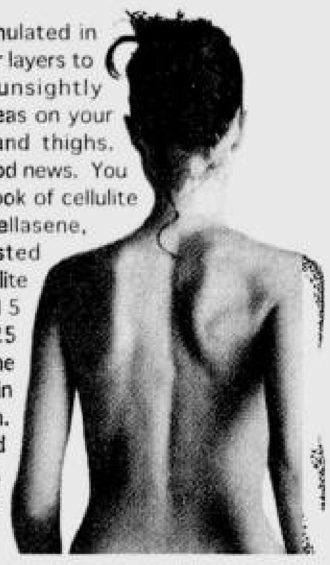

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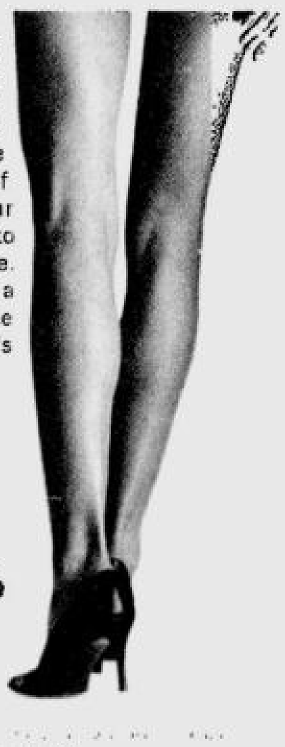

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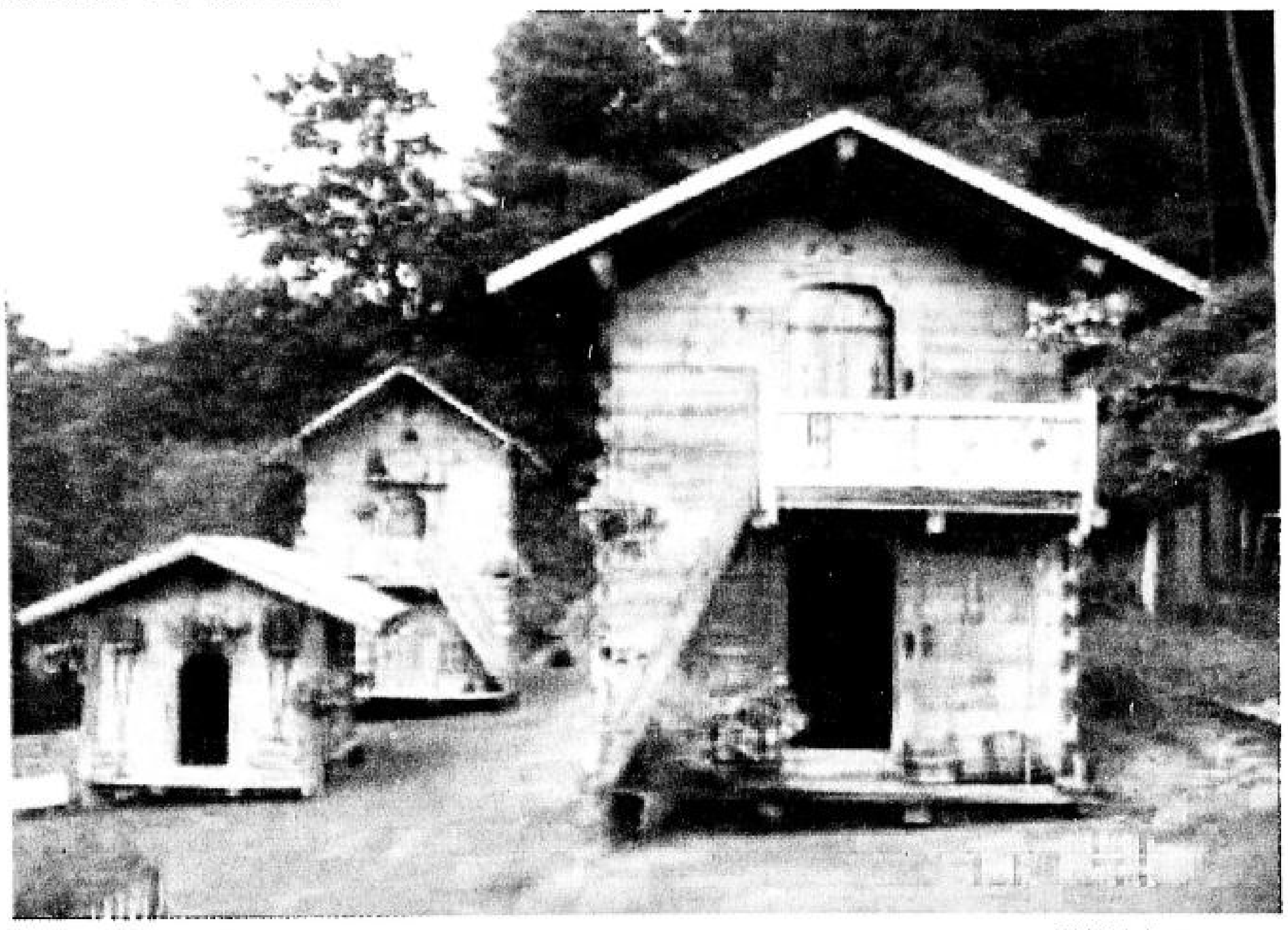
SMALL YET SELECTIVE. Not all *brocante* shops pile on the junk. La Baratte in Megeve brings out only the best.



SMALL barns containing more antiques dot the area of Antiquites de la Ferme in Domancy.

Antiquing in the Alps

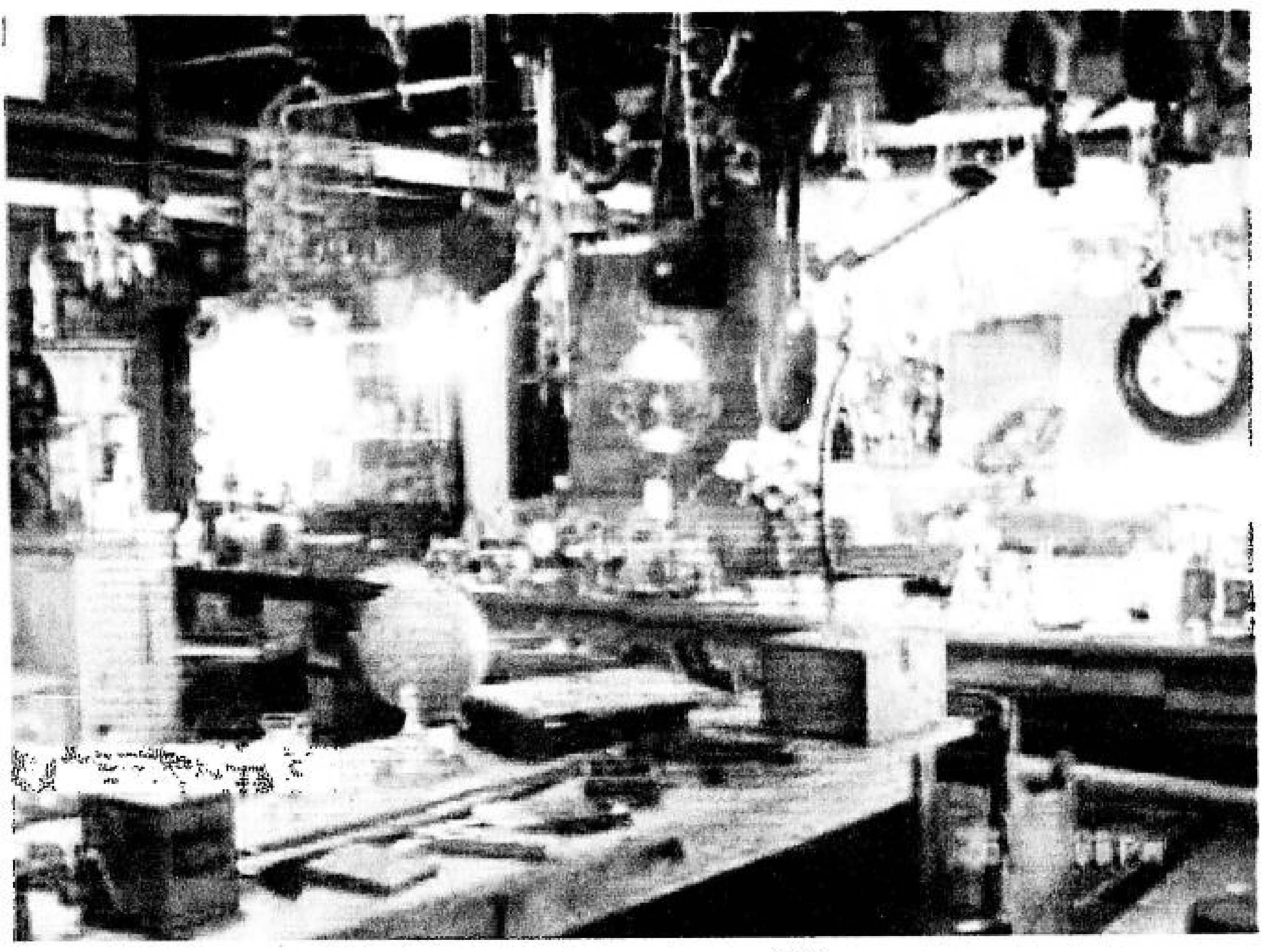
By Kitty Go
Contributor

AS much as I dislike most of Europe for its perennially unavailable carpenters and extremely long lunch breaks, the continent wins hands down for the variety of secondhand merchandise or, as they call it in France, *brocante*. To some people (like my husband), it's just other people's junk. As the saying goes, one man's junk is another's treasure. With that attitude, *brocante* stores survive.

Even in the countryside, "antiques" do not come cheap as there are collectors for every category from wooden sleds, enameled coffee pots to clay cheese molds. However, prices are still better than on Portobello Road in London, weekend markets in Paris or Manhattan. In the summer, neighboring towns organize *brocante* fairs on weekends but stores (more like warehouses) can be found anywhere, even in the most remote country roads.

Verging on the quirky

If you get the chance to visit the French Alps in the vicinity of Mont Blanc (ski resorts Megeve, which in the '30s the Rothschild family developed into "the St. Moritz of France," and Chamonix being the most popular) you will find many interesting antique and secondhand shops verging on the quirky, with even stranger proprietors to match.



THE INTERIOR of La Belle Epoque is damp and cavernous but *brocante* lovers can spend hours poking through the rubble.

Generally you can try to haggle with these shops or stalls but you may not get a discount. Instead, they will give you some other merchandise for free.

At one fair, I bought three bowls and a child's sled and got a plate for free. At La Belle Epoque (24, route du Fayet, 74700 Sallanches; ph +33(0) 450585461), the owner gave me a fantastic old yet sturdy wooden stool for free only because he couldn't be bothered with adding it to my bill. I think he was also baffled that someone from Hong Kong came into his shop. "Hong Kong, Hong Kong…" he kept saying as he gave my check a second, third and fourth look before showing it to his partner.

THE MAIN BARN. Antiquites de la Ferme is an antique store laid out like a farm.

Damp and moldy

Most of the shops still have prices in French francs so you may find yourself walking around with one of those calculators that convert francs to euros. But La Belle Epoque takes the cake in creepiness not because the place is cavernous, damp and moldy but also because teenagers who look like the French version of boys in the 'hood are actually working there instead of shoplifting. The owner, a piece of work himself, watches football and the news on a small black-and-white TV, which he makes clear to me is the only antique in the store that is not for sale. Add to that the location of the shop, which is next to a car repair shop, and you get the most surreal antiques store you wouldn't want your friends to see you rotting in.

The price tags are not only still in francs but they are so worn out that they probably date from *la belle epoque* (late 19th century). Most of the furniture is expensive, and clearly, the owner knows what people like, such as boules, wooden caskets, baskets, china, etc. as these are pricier here than in most places. There are price discrepancies, though, and that is the joy of antiquing—finding something you like (which probably no one else does) at a price you like more.

Barn shop

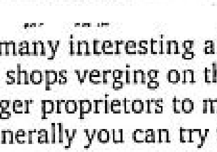
Antiquites Et Greniers Anciens (Ferme du Pelloux a Domancy: ph +33(0) 450585391) in Domancy is an antique warehouse laid out, as the address connotes, like a farm. There is a main barn that holds furniture and three smaller wooden houses displaying smaller items like ceramics, cradles and candelabras. Like most large *brocante* stores, you can spend hours looking through the merchandise without anyone coming to check on you and you can emerge with a treasure, a carload of junk or nothing at all.

Not all *brocante* shops are a hodgepodge of the old, moldy and strange. Some places look like they carry only a small selection in the true European shopping fashion that discourages browsing. But most shopkeepers would be happy to show you other things if you ask.

La Baratte (1037, Route Nationale, 74120 Megeve; +33(0) 450919378) sells wooden antique furniture and ceramic and wooden bowls. Likewise, Chalet Niege Vent (1864 Route Nationale, 74120 Megeve; ph +33(0) 450589854). No clocks, no granny lamps or antique linens in these two places. Chalet Niege store also uses antique wood to make new furniture on order and it is one of the few *brocante* stores that ships around the world.

RP joins environment summit in Johannesburg

SEEING GREEN



Doris Gaskell Nuyda

AS this goes to press, the World Summit for Sustainable Development, sequel to the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992, also called Rio + 10, is well into its 10-day conference in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The primary purpose of this world event is to review the gains or shortages of the Rio summit 10 years ago, to reaffirm commitments made then, and to come up with concrete measures, along with target and definite time lines for implementation.

There are 65,000 participants (68 of them from the Philippines, composed of officials from civil society, business and government), including 100 presidents and prime ministers from around the world.

Members of the Philippine delegation have expressed a lot of concern for poverty alleviation in the context of the environment and development, and reducing excessive consumption that causes waste and pollution. They expect to come home rich in implementation measures, since implementation is the key to sustainable development and other environmental issues.

Among the 49 Filipino delegates are Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez, Economic Planning Secretary Dante Canlas, Civil Society Counterpart Council for Sustainable Development's Delfin J. Ganapin Jr., and Sr. Aida Velasquez of the NGO Lingkod Tao Kalikasan.

Link-up

While the Philippine delegation to the WSSD was getting ready to meet their counterparts in Johannesburg, South Africa, Body Shop and Greenpeace have been busy getting ready for the same event. This was to solicit as many signatures possible in a Clean Energy campaign that sought to reduce greenhouse gases and prevent climate change.

They seemed an unlikely pair at first. Body Shop is basically a skin and hair care business though committed to environmental causes. Greenpeace focuses on international environmental crusades. But as both have international presence, their impact is a sure way to get their message across—which is, to shift from fossil fuels to positive energy such as wind, solar and wave power. The initial step of their campaign was to solicit signatures asking people to make the shift or influence others to do the same.

The meeting will evaluate the Rio de Janeiro conventions drafted 10 years ago

Globally, both organizations have raised more than one million signatures. Body Shop Philippines alone garnered almost 70,000 as of last count. By this time, the signatures are being submitted at the World Summit. This was the occasion chosen for submission because First World countries are included in the summit, and their governments are being asked to make commitments to provide clean and renewable energy to two billion people around the world who now live without decent energy services. Developed countries are being asked to put in a certain percent of their energy investments to renewable energy and to phase out financial support for "dirty" energy.

Evidence of climate change may not be too clear at present, explains Greenpeace, but scientists project its impact on developing countries like the Philippines to be very serious. Greenpeace climate campaigner Red Constantino warns that rising sea levels are also expected with an anticipated increase in frequency and intensity of storms and drought, as well as the spread of disease.

To carry out this big task, Body Shop set up its signature campaign in its outlets all over the world. Greenpeace employs its greater mobility (it has ocean-going vessels) to gather signatures. "Only a systematic and drastic reduction of greenhouse gas emissions can prevent climate change from wreaking more damage on the ecosystems," explains Body Shop.

Greenpeace, which avails of volunteers for most of its causes, proudly announces that a single cyclist, Ignacio "Shyo' Sayajon, was able to solicit 17,000 signatures from three provinces in 23 days. A "Bike Tour for the Climate" organized for the clean energy campaign, took him to Leyte, Bacolod and Cebu. He said he carried only a digital camera, lots of petition books and lots of hope. Early this month, he joined 300 other cyclists in a massive bike rally in Bacolod.

Aside from the signature campaign, there were activities to drum up more awareness on the need to invest in renewable energy. Greenpeace held an Earth Jam concert in Bacolod, and installed wind turbines in Sojoton Point, Camiguin.

Body Shop raised funds through in-store sales of stuffed toys shaped like marine animals, proceeds of which went to the installation of solar panels in a school in Pulupandan.

Both sponsored a "Race for the Climate" regatta last summer in Manila Bay with the cooperation of the Amateur Rowing Association.

So now, what's next? There will be plenty of reports after Rio + 10

One-stop home shop offers great buys at sale prices

AUG. 1 to Sept. 1 are great days for shoppers at SM HomeWorld. During this period, they can avail of super deals, that include 50-percent off on selected items, buy-one-take-one bargains, specials and bonus gifts with selected purchases.

On top of the spectacular discounts and irresistible specials, SM HomeWorld has lined up a series of take-home extras in the form of Free Gifts of the Week. The free gifts may be individually availed of by shoppers with a minimum purchase worth P500 in a single receipt at the Linen, Decor, Glassware, Plasticware of Kitchenware Department.

On the other hand, SM's Furniture Department in North Edsa, Cubao, Ortigas, Manila, Las Piñas and Makati also offer free small kitchen appliances to shoppers with a minimum P5,000 purchase in a single receipt.

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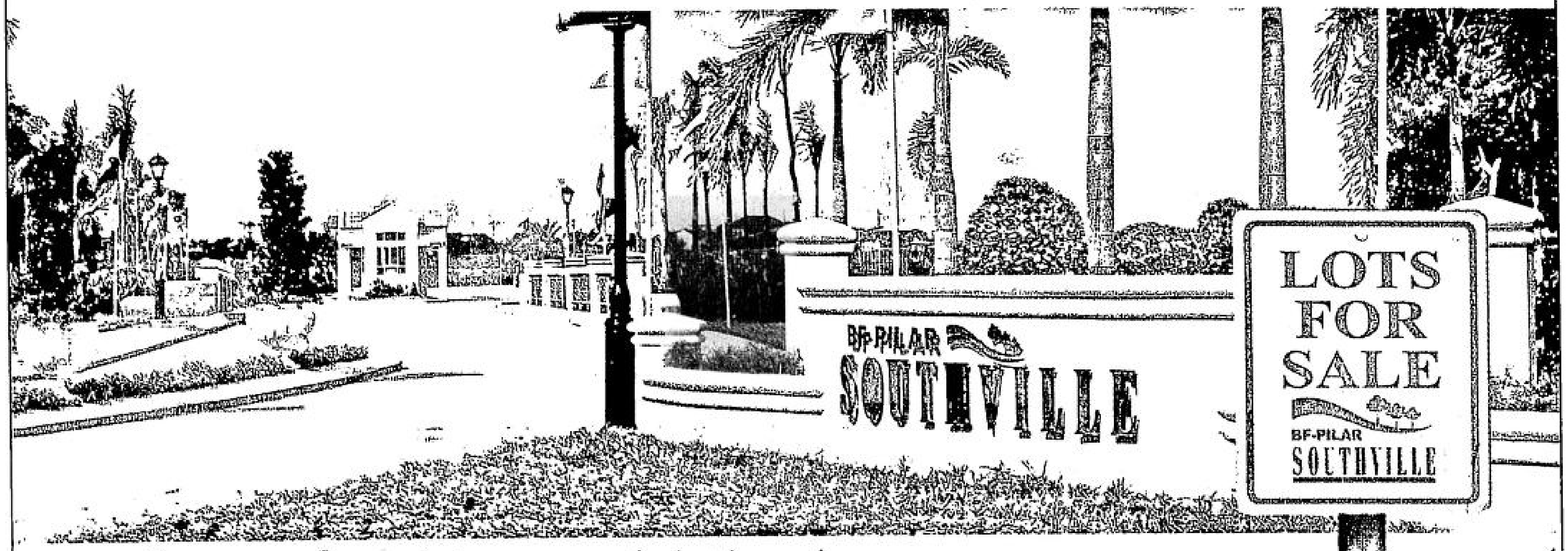
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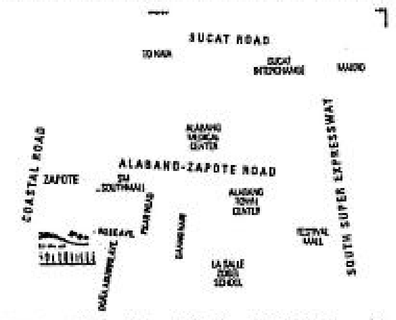
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